FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

25 APRIL 1984

Lebanon

Security Situation — The operation to disengage the hostile forces in Beirut was completed when cease-fire observers were deployed in five positions that had caused a "problem" that the Security Arrangements Committee has now solved, Beirut radio announced on 24 April. Nevertheless, the situation subsequently deteriorated, the radio said, and West Beirut came under heavy sniper fire after gunfire was directed at the Lebanese Forces' representative on the Security Arrangements Committee, wounding two of his aides. The Lebanese Forces denounced the attempt in an official statement broadcast by Voice of Lebanon radio, asserting that the incident tests the credibility of claims by the Amal Movement and the Progressive Socialist Party that they are in control of the situation in West Beirut. It added that the Lebanese Forces are determined to continue to support the cease-fire and disengagement plan. Two civilians were killed by sniper fire during the clashes in central Beirut, according to an Amal source cited by Beirut radio.

Beirut radio reported that the IDF closed the only remaining road link between the south and the rest of Lebanon, firing at the tires of vehicles waiting to enter the south.

Political Situation — "Informed sources" expect President Amin al-Jumayyil to receive former Prime Minister Rashid Karami on 25 April to discuss the possible formation of a new government, Beirut radio reported. Al-Jumayyil has held consultations with various Christian and Muslim leaders in recent days, the radio noted, and informed Karami by telephone of the "unanimous" view that he should be the new prime minister. Karami agreed to form a government after receiving "an Arab guarantee for the Syrian solution to end the crisis" as well as assurances that all the main political leaders will participate in the government, according to opposition sources cited by the radio.

Phalange Party leader Pierre al-Jumayyil, in a statement reported by Beirut radio, said the Lebanese Forces will not obstruct the formation of a national unity government, stressing that the Phalange insists on the participation of the Lebanese Forces in the new government. He dismissed as "wrong" the Lebanese Forces spokesman's recent statement that the Forces would not join the new government, asserting that the Lebanese Front rather than the spokesman speaks for the Forces on this issue.

Libya

Libya will exercise "reciprocity" both with regard to the return of diplomatic personnel and respect for embassy grounds, Foreign Liaison Secretary 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki told AFP. He stated that the diplomats will return home "at the same time," and warned that Libyan soldiers would enter the British Embassy in Tripoli if British authorities entered the Libyan Bureau in London.

According to the AFP report, At-Turayki indicated that Libyan authorities were "surprised" by the decision to break relations which, he said, should have been preserved. He also disclosed that Libya has "no problem" with accepting Italy as Britain's representative in the country.

In another development, a Turkish Foreign Ministry official indicated that Turkey would be pleased to "eliminate" the crisis between Britain and Libya and said that there were indications that both countries might accept Turkey's help in the matter, ANATOLIA news agency reported.

Afghanistan

The Armed Forces mounted an operation against the "criminal band" of Ahmad Shah Masud and occupied the "last nests" of that "professional criminal" in the Panjsher valley, Kabul radio reported. The government initially decided against a military operation out of fear for the safety of the inhabitants, the radio disclosed, but Masud's "barbaric crimes," ordered by his American, British, and Pakistani "masters," compelled it to act. Security now prevails throughout the valley and Masud's band "no longer exists," the report charged.

Meanwhile, an AFP report citing "Western diplomatic sources" claimed that Soviet troops carried out the offensive against Masud's rebels in the valley. The attack began with "massive" air and artillery strikes; an "eyewitness account" claimed that 43 Soviet planes bombarded the valley.

The clandestine Voice of Islamic Revolution of Afghanistan radio reported that mujahidin in the Panjsher valley inflicted "heavy losses" on the Soviet-Afghan forces attempting to infiltrate mujahidin lines in order to kill a "local commander." According to Karachi radio, the mujahidin are said to be in control of the valley and described claims that Soviet-Afghan forces have occupied the area as "mere propaganda."

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi planes bombed the Iranian border town of Piranshah on 25 April, killing 7 people and injuring 30 others, Tehran radio announced.

Iraq

First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan held talks in Moscow with Ivan Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, INA reported. The two sides reviewed relations and ways to develop and expand cooperation in all fields, INA said, and also discussed Arab and international issues including the Iran-Iraq war.

Saudi-Jordanian Talks

King Fahd and King Husayn chaired talks in Riyadh which were attended by the Saudi defense minister and the commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces, SPA Reported.

Western Sahara

A SADR Information Ministry communique reported by APS claimed that Polisario forces killed 70 Moroccan soldiers in a recent attack on positions south of Zaak.

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Jordanian Crown Prince Opens ARABSAT Meetings

JN241501 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn today delegated His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the regent, to open the meetings of the seventh ordinary session of the general assembly of the Arab Satellite Communications Organization — ARABSAT.

In his opening speech, his highness the regent said that the challenge of knowledge and technology currently being faced by the Arab nation is expressed in the great and accelerating developments in the science and industry of space and ground telecommunications in both the military and civilian sectors. His highness addressed the participants saying: Your task today is a great and difficult task. You are required to prepare Arab manpower and cadres who are trained, specialized, and able to catch up with modern developing technology and to adapt this technology in the service of the objectives and needs of the Arab people. His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the regent, wished the participants success in their efforts, so that Amman will be synonomous with the operation of the satellite as it has been with the execution of the project at the first Amman meeting in April 1981.

Iraqi, Kuwaiti Foreign Ministers To Visit Japan

GF241212 Doha QNA in Arabic 1010 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] Kuwait, 24 Apr (QNA) — Press reports noted here today that Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister, foreign affairs minister and information minister, and Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign affairs minister, will pay a visit in early May to Japan at the request of the Arab seven-member committee. This stems from the emergency meeting of the Arab foreign ministers which convened recently in Baghdad.

The Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-ANBA'* noted that among the issues that will be discussed during this visit are the Iraqi-Iranian war, the prospects of blocking the Strait of Hormuz, the Palestinian issue, the Middle East crisis, the situation in the Horn of Africa, and the issue of Western Sahara.

On the other hand, the Kuwaiti newspaper *AS-SIYASAH* quoted Arab political sources as saying that the Kuwaiti and Iraqi officials will relay a unified Arab position with regard to the prevailing situation in the Middle East. The paper added that they will discuss the dimensions of the grave position that emanates from possible aggression by the Zionist enemy on industrial and scientific targets in Iraq.

AL-QABAS on Improving Egyptian-Syrian Relations

GF211344 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 20 Apr 84 pp 1, 16

[By diplomatic editor]

[Excerpt] In Damascus they talk to you about the secret honeymoon between Egypt and Syria, and then they deny, using evasive and unconvincing words, that Field Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, Egyptian defense minister, had visited the Syrian capital, leading a senior military delegation said to have included a senior diplomat that could have been Dr Usamah al-Baz. Although it has been confirmed that Dr al-Baz has visited Damascus once, information about his second visit is still vague.

It is also confirmed that Abu Ghazalah did actually visit Damascus. You cannot obtain additional information to determine whether the Egyptian official inspected the Syrian-Israeli front or only met with the senior political and military leaders. However, it is interesting that the Syrian circles, which had for long strongly criticized the Egyptian regime, do not now hesitate to use some positive words when talking about President Husni Mubarak, clearly distinguishing between the former and the present presidents without talking about the next. Naturally, this is in response to more than one Egyptian initiative that exceeded sending a cable of congratulations on the 21st anniversary of the 8 March revolution, inquiring about President al-Asad's health, and offering possible medical services.

However, the actual initiative which exceeded all these is an Egyptian affirmation to Syria that it will not stand idly by if any of Syria's apparatus is subjected to an Israeli attack. In the meantime, informed sources stress that President Husni Mubarak informed President Reagan that the Egyptian-Israeli treaty will be greatly jeopardized if Israel were to embark on a military action against Syria. It is not known if the Egyptian reaction would exceed freezing or arbrogating this treaty, or direct military confrontation.

L'EXPRESS Quoted on Palestinian Deployment

NC201507 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1445 GMT 20 Apr 84

[Phalangist military radio]

[Text] The French magazine *L'EXPRESS* has reported that Damascus has ordered the Palestinian fighters in Syria to take up positions in the Dar'a area on the Syrian-Jordanian border in an attempt to destabilize Jordan following the Jordanian-Palestinian rapprochement with the moderate Arab regimes.

PLO's Khalaf Denies Report on Amman Visit

GF211320 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 20 Apr 84 p 1

[Excerpt] Salah Khalaf (alias Abu Iyad), Fatah Central Committee member, has categorically denied a KUNA report quoting a Jordanian newspaper saying he will accompany PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat during his upcoming visit to the Jordanian capital. In a statement to *AL-WATAN*, he said that these reports are completely untrue.

In the meantime, *AL-WATAN* has learned from informed Arab sources that Faruq Qaddumi (alias Abu al-Luft) is now ill and for this reason will not accompany 'Arafat in the near future or on the upcoming visit to the Jordanian capital as the Jordanian press has reported.

To Visit USSR 25 April

LD241052 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1004 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Excerpts] Moscow, 24 April (KUNA) — Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, member of the Fatah Central Committee, is due here tomorrow on an official visit to the USSR, it was stated here today.

Informed sources say he will be accompanied by two Fatah Central Committee members, Mahmud 'Abbas and Khalid al-Hasan, and that the visit is at the invitation of the Soviet Government "to discuss ways of solving the differences within the PLO that emerged following the departure of the Palestine resistance from Tripoli, northern Lebanon, and PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's visit to Cairo last December.

The sources added that the USSR, Syria, Algeria, and the PDRY have been keeping in touch with each other in an attempt to bring the views of the various Palestinian resistance detachments together and to reach a means of healing the rift within the PLO.

It was reported that the USSR was not happy about 'Arafat's meeting with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, and that Moscow considers the meeting a retraction by 'Arafat from the anti-Camp David line adopted by the majority of the Arab countries with the support of the USSR.

PLO-Jordanian Delegation To Visit Paris

JN201737 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 20 Apr 84

[Text] Brother Hani al-Hasan, member of the Fatah Central Committee, has said that a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation will go to Paris soon to reach an agreement with the French Government on ways of achieving greater rapprochement between Western Europe and the PLO.

In a statement to AFP, Brother Hani al-Hasan said that this joint PLO-Jordanian delegation will visit Paris following the convening of the PNC. Hani al-Hasan added: We hope that in the forthcoming months France will succeed in achieving a rapprochement between Europe and the PLO, particularly following the EEC countries' declaration France played a major role in formulating which calls for the Palestinian people's right to self-determination. Brother Hani al-Hasan said that France is capable of achieving a great many things in the Middle East because it adopts a stand independent from the United States, even though they are partners.

PLO's As-Surani on Jordanian-Palestinian Relations

JN211116 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 0945 GMT 21 Apr 84

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Apr (PETRA) — Jamal as-Surani, PLO Executive Committee member, has said the current Jordanian-Palestinian coordination is a natural and necessary step and is in the interests of the Jordanian and Palestinian people facing the Zionist danger and ambitions in the region.

In a statement to the PETRA correspondent in Baghdad, As-Surani asserted the need to intensify the coordination and cooperation between officias in Jordan and the PLO on all levels to achieve a strategic alliance that will maintain the unity of both peoples and will represent a unified Arab strategy to confront the Israeli schemes and ambitions. He noted that the meetings and contacts between both parties will continue to work out a joint strategy and formulas for joint action to support the Palestinian people's steadfastness in the occupied territories.

As-Surani asked: Why should there not be coordination since both the Jordanian and Palestinian people have a common destiny and distinguished relations due to the nature of the Palestine cause? He noted that this coordination, which came late, has a great effect on the Palestine cause which is undergoing difficult circumstances.

On the popular Palestinian congress to be held in Algeria in the beginning of May, As-Surani said that some Palestinian personalities residing in fraternal Iraq will participate in this congress, which will express the stands of the different Palestinian groups toward the legitimate Palestinian leadership.

Bethlehem Mayor Arrives in Amman, Discusses Tour

JN221020 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 22 Apr 84 pp 1, 22

[Excerpts] Amman — *AR-RA'Y* — Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj has arrived in Amman after a 53-day tour of Australia, the United States, France, and Britain.

In a statement to *AR-RA'Y*, Frayj said: In Australia, I found understanding and support for the Palestinian cause and the Palestinian people's tragedy. The Australian Government considers the Israeli settlements in the occupied Arab territories to be illegal. It supports the Palestinian people's right of self-determination. Frayj added: The Australian prime minister affirmed to me that he will increase his interest in Middle East affairs, particularly the Palestinian issue.

On his visit to the United States, France, and Britain, Frayj said: I have explained the situation in the occupied territories and the aspects of the Israeli occupation, particularly the settlements. I voiced our desire to liberate the territories on the principle of realizing peace in exchange for the territories in accordance with Security Council Resolution No 242. During all these meetings, I found various levels of support for the Palestinians and understanding of the Palestinian tragedy. The lack of a unified Arab opinion on the Palestinian problem was one of the problems I faced.

Frayj also said: Regrettably, many U.S. Senate and House of Representatives members are competing in their support of Israel's policy and in denying Palestinian rights. The U.S. policy is unfair and unrealistic. It accuses the Palestinians of being warmongers, while in fact they are victims of political plots. They are greatly suffering from the measures of occupation and Judaization in the West Bank and Gaza. The Israeli settlements policy has reached the point of no return. It is the duty of all those concerned about realizing just peace in the region to view issues

in a realistic manner and to distinguish between the oppressed and the occupiers.

Frayj is due to leave Amman for the occupied West Bank today.

Arab League Sources on Palestinian Passports

JN211019 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 0920 GMT 21 Apr 84

[Text] Tunis, 21 Apr (PETRA) — Arab League sources have asserted that the Arab League Council in its last session did not discuss the issue of Palestinian passports.

Answering the PETRA correspondent on reports disseminated during the past week regarding procedures for issuing Palestinian passports, the sources said before discussing the travel and residence problems of the Palestinians, the Council postponed discussion to wait for the results of a tour by an Arab League delegation from a number of Arab countries.

PETRA has learned that the delegation has been formed, and that Jamal as-Surani, PLO Executive Committee member, will represent the PLO. The delegation also includes a number of officials from the Arab League.

The Arab League sources noted that contacts are being held with Kuwait, the UAE, Qatar, and Bahrain to fix the date of the delegation's visits to these countires. It is now known that the visits will take place the second half of May. These visits will be the first stage of the delegation's tour. The dates of the second stage, which will cover other Arab countries, will be fixed in June.

The Arab League sources said that the delegation will urge the Arab countries it will visit to carry out their commitments included in the protocol for guaranteeing the freedom of the Palestinian people's travel, residence, and work; a protocol signed by these countries and stipulating the Palestinian worker must be treated like the citizens of the country in which he resides and works. The delegation will also deal with the problems related to identification cards and traveling documents of the Palestinians in the countries in which they reside.

'Arafat Meets With UN Journalist Delegation

JN241835 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1627 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] held a news conference yesterday evening attended by a UN information delegation of 15 journalists representing various world countries. In this 2-hour news conference, Abu 'Ammar answered several questions posed by the journalists on the various aspects and developments in the Palestine question and the Palestinian people's legitimate rights in their homeland.

He reminded the journalists of the previous UN decision concerning the Palestine question, and the imperialist and Zionist lobby's attempts to procrastinate instead of implement these decisions in order to foil their execution and to show the United Nations as unable to implement what it decides. He explained this attempt aims at destroying confidence in this international body to open the door wide for implementing the imperialist and Zionist conspiracies against the Palestinian people and their rights in their homeland.

Meets Soviet Writers Delegation

JN241815 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1627 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] met yesterday with the Soviet Writers Union delegation that is eulogizing the Palestinian revolution's poet, the late Mu'in Bisaysu.

Abu 'Ammar briefed the Soviet delegation on the Zionist entity's war against Palestinian culture and literature, and the attempts to distort them to erase the Palestine question's civilized features. He exposed the Zionists' attempts to spread ignorance among the Palestinian citizens through the Zionist occupation authorities' measures against institutes and schools and through arrests, torture, mock trials, house arrests, expulsion outside the occupied homeland, and the oppression of free expression to which the writers, edcuated persons, journalists, teachers, and students are being subjected.

The Soviet writers delegation affirmed their full support for the Palestinian people's just and legitimate struggle to achieve their freedom and independence. They also affirmed their support for their colleague Palestinian writers.

The meeting was attended by Brother Ahmad 'Abd ar-Rahman, editor in chief of *ATH-THAWRAH* magazine and secretary general of the Palestinian Writers and Journalists Federation, and Palestinian poet Ahmad Dahbur, member of the Palestinian Writers and Journalists Federation General Secretariat.

Voice of PLO Stresses Unity, 'Arafat's Leadership

JN232057 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1630 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] The efforts to rebuild Palestinian national unity on a clear, firm basis within the framework of the PLO and its legitimate revolutionary banner, and on the basis of independent Palestinian decisionmaking are not meant only to avoid this exceptional phase and its threats but also to strengthen the Palestinian national march of struggle and inject it with the means necessary to realize the major national aims.

It has become amply clear that the PLO's fighting, legitimate Palestinian leadership has practically bypassed all attempts to cast doubts on it, spread confusion, and tarnish the PLO's political moves. All of these attempts failed to affect the PLO's status on the various levels, and to negatively affect the Algiers meeting. What is more important is that these attempts failed to create a schism between the PLO's fighting, legitimate leadership and its masses everywhere, particularly inside the occupied homeland. On the contrary, these attempts led to more popular

cohesion around the legitimate leadership — a cohesion that was manifested in cables of support and mammoth demonstrations.

In listing these objective points in our talk about the efforts to realize Palestinian unity, we endeavor to explain the dangers of disagreement among the primary revolutionary factions and the effect this disagreement has on the popular base. Those who do not take these objective points into consideration will eventually find themselves isolated from the escalating people's march, which is led by the fighting legitimate leadership whose bright symbol is Brother Abu 'Amamr [Yasir 'Arafat].

In conclusion, we are aware that rebuilding the Palestinian national unity, for which our people are struggling, is not an easy task if some Arab regimes continue to adhere to their arbitrary policy of interfering in internal Palestinian affairs. We are also aware that getting rid of pressure and interference is not an easy task. However, the national stand, which must always serve the revolution and its escalation, has a very great price which must be paid regardless of its size and regardless of the difficulties. We will pay this price, and will sacrifice heavily in this regard.

Praises Palestinian Meeting Results

JN242003 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1700 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Unattributed talk]

[Text] Brothers: Perhaps the most significant point the brothers in the leadership of the revolution groups within the PLO discussed — the brothers who met in Algiers within the first session of a responsible Palestinian national dialogue to dispose of the marginal differences and to engage in a strategic agreement — is adherence to the PNC decisions, particularly those of its recent session in Algiers. Affirming adherence to these decisions reveals a very important point; namely, that Palestinian differences exist outside the political program and more precisely, outside the national unanimity toward this program. This means that these differences are no more than secondary differences on non-strategic courses.

If we take the blatant Arab intereference in Palestinian affairs and the Arab regimes' attempts to split Palestinian ranks into consideration, we will discover these differences are even less than secondary ones. These differences will become normal if this blatant interference is ended — this interference that greatly contributed to visualizing the Palestinian dispute as centering on fateful issues. This is in addition to the blatant attempts to enrich and expand this dispute after its failure to split the Palestinian arena in the manner these regimes desire, and toward the objective they seek to achieve through their instruments and agents inside the Palestinian arena.

The Algiers Palestinian meetings' emphasis on adherence to the PNC decisions is an emphasis on adherence to the independent Palestinian policy which these Palestinian groups fought for to entrench its principles and its strategic revolutionary courses within the PLO leadership. Furthermore, this emphasis proves the correct stands of the fighting Palestinian legitimacy toward the blatant Arab attempts to interfere in Palestinian domestic affairs. It also proves a serious opposition to these attempts and a declaration of the independent Palestinian national decision-making as a historical achievment for the Palestinian revolution, whose relinquishment is impossible. It is not only for this reason, because this achievement constitutes a strategic need to enable the Palestinian national struggle to continue and to proceed toward fulfilling its great objectives.

The Palestinians meeting in Algiers made a brilliant step when they affirmed that adherence to the PNC decisions, particularly those of the PNC's 16th session, contributes basically to PLO unity and constitutes a base for handling differences in the PLO ranks. It is thus a painful strike at all those who are pushing us to handle our differences outside the framework of Palestinian legitimacy. It is a painful strike for all those who tried to destroy these frameworks. Glory be to the developing Palestinian march toward achieving its great national objectives.

Comments on Algiers Meetings

JN242110 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1638 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Until the image becomes clearer during the coming days or weeks, it does seem that what had been necessary to take into consideration during the Palestinian meetings in Algiers actually was. Certainly, these meetings did not reach any final results. Possibly, some of the conferees were not expecting to reach such results. The solutions to the topics under discussion were intermingling under the influence of very complicated internal and external balances of power. Nevertheless, the conferees agreed to meet face to face for 1 week. Each one expressed what he had in mind to enable the others to understand his views, the influences on his stands, and the concern he has over the cause.

This is sufficient for a beginning. Building and reaching good results can be made on such grounds. It has been taken into consideration that Palestinian differences, regardless of their topics and the extent of their sharpness, must not be handled by estrangement, but through meetings and face to face discussions to reach solutions. This principle, which must remain the basis of Palestinian national unity and the means to preserve this unity on an effective level is sufficient to dispose of all the predicaments of repulsion and division.

It has also been taken into consideration that the different Palestinian groups may differ in how they see their positions, through which they base their alliances and derive their source of strength. Because this fact has been understood and overcome, the different circles were able to meet and exchange views in the Algiers meetings. It was only natural that these meetings would have begun with a clash and would end with relative understanding.

It is certainly understood that the percentage of intermingling between the ideas and positions of the various Palestinian groups is the factor that provides the basis for a unified national decision. It is also understood that when this percentage increases, the Palestinian national decision becomes more cohesive and effec-

tive. The opposite of this is also true: When the external influence or alliance becomes stronger than the internal Palestinian influence or alliance, the repulsion increases and the Palestinian decisionmaking becomes weaker and decisions unlikely to be adopted.

The Palestinian meetings in Algiers have proven awareness of this point and have shown a strong desire from all parties to strengthen the Palestinian alliance and decisionmaking. It seemed for some time that the place and venue of the Palestinian meetings was the topic of differences. At certain times it was the place and venue of the PNC meeting, and at other times brother Abu 'Ammar's [Yasir 'Arafat] visit to Cairo seemed to be the topic of differences.

Perhaps matters still stood as such, but the keen observer of past events and the chances of their future development can see that all these topics are only discharges on the surface, not inside the body. For instance, the split in the Palestinian arena began last spring. It even preceded setting a date for the PNC meeting and any possibility for Abu 'Ammar's visit to Cairo. Another example is that the Algiers meetings were held in order to lay down the basis for the PNC session. Not one of the conferees considered the press statement on the Algiers meeting an obstacle for setting a date for the PNC session. Furthermore, the Algiers meetings were held by overlooking 'Arafat's visit to Cairo just as this press statement did.

These examples indicate that the estrangement was somehow a need to reevaluate positions during the difficult phase following the departure from Beirut and Tripoli. The Algiers meetings may refer to the fact there is a current need for the Palestinian parties to look for a common ground in their movements' areas to make them collective and effective, and to have their decision be heard.

Voice of PLO Reports Resistance Operations

Near Az-Zahrani River

JN211731 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 21 Apr 84

[Text] Palestinian and Lebanese national resistance men have carried out a daring operation against a Zionist military patrol near the Az-Zahrani River in occupied southern Lebanon. The resistance men planted remote-controled explosive charges on a road near the Az-Zahrani River. The explosion destroyed one vehicle in the patrol and killed or wounded several Israeli soldiers. A Zionist military spokesman admitted the operation but, as usual, claimed that only one Israeli soldier was wounded. The spokesman added that large military reinforcements were dispatched to the area which they immediately combed in a futile attempt to search for those who carried out the operation.

Near Al-Qir'awn

JN221725 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 22 Apr 84

[Text] Palestinian and Lebanese nationalist resistance men attacked a Zionist military patrol near the village of Al-Qir'awn in southern Lebanon yesterday. The attack killed or wounded several Zionist soldiers and destroyed the patrol's vehicle. A Zionist spokesman admitted the operation; but, as usual, he claimed no casualties were sustained. The spokesman added that his forces immediately cordoned off the area to search for the resistance men, who withdrew safely.

It is worth noting that during the past 24 hours the Palestinian and Lebanese nationalist resistance men have carried out four daring and successful operations against the Zionist occupation forces. These operations resulted in killing or wounding several Zionist soldiers and destroying two military vehicles belonging to the occupation forces.

On Road to Qaldilyah

JN241737 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1627 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] A group of our revolutionaries operating inside the occupied homeland detonated explosive charges by remote control under a Zionist military patrol passing on a main road to Qaldilyah in the West Bank. The explosion destroyed one of the patrol's vehicles and wounded a number of the occupation soldiers. The Zionist military sources admitted this daring operation and claimed that only two soldiers were wounded. The sources added that large Israeli forces rushed to the scene of the operation and staged an extensive campaign in search of our hero fighters, but all their attempts were in vain.

BAHRAIN

Foreign Minister on GCC, Inter-Arab Cooperation

GF241949 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1815 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] Tunis, 24 Apr (WAKH) — Bahraini Minister of Foreign Affairs Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah has affirmed that the GCC sprang from the harmonious principles and the Arab League Charter, which encouraged cooperation within any Arab group.

In a statement published in the Tunisian newspaper *L'ACTION* today, Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah praised the economic and political achievements of the GCC. He said: Cir- cumstances made it incumbent upon us to establish the GCC. We feel we have started a never-ending effort, because every coordination action has unknown results. We started out on the right track of putting down the bases first, and then we proceeded to economic cooperation, because we are from the Third World and because our economic growth is faster than that of any region in the world.

The Bahraini foreign affairs minister affirmed that the GCC countries' stands are identical and homogeneous, particularly with regard to the Iraqi-Iran war, in that we oppose the war and call on the two parties to sit down and negotiate to reach a peaceful solution that is satisfactory to both of them. The GCC countries have overcome the negative factors which fill the Arab homeland, particularly the issue of joint defense, which we consider to be a natural form of cooperation, he said. He indicated that in the security field the GCC focusses on two basic foundations: the Economic Council and the Defense Council. He expressed the hope that the GCC method of action will be applied to all regions in the Arab world, particularly the Arab Maghreb, which is the most convenient region for such cooperation.

Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah praised the Bahraini-Tunisian relations and described them as exemplary. The joint agreement between Bahrain and Tunisia embodies the will of the Tunisian and Bahraini peoples for cooperation in all fields, he said. In this connection, he called on Arab media to pinpoint achievements in the Arab countries, particularly economic achievements. He praised the Tunisian leadership and described it as a political pioneer in the Arab world. He said: We have faith in it and we learn from its instructions.

The Bahraini foreign minister attributed the fact that Gulf markets are not open with regard to Arab production as required to the difficult communications among Arab countries and to administrative obstacles in some Arab countries. He called for using joint Arab investments to achieve food security in the Arab homeland. At the same time, he expressed regret over the present system for distributing the benefits from Arab investments and said a more practical method should be adopted so that the goals required from these investments will be achieved.

UAE Chief of Staff Departs Manama 24 Apr

GF241200 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1120 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Manama, 24 Apr (WAKH) — The UAE chief of staff, Brigadier General Muhammad Sa'id al-Bidi, and the accompanying delegation left Manama for home today after concluding a 3-day official visit to the State of Bahrain.

Briefs

1983 Oil Trade Figures — Bahrain's balance of trade in the oil sector brought a surplus of BD 435.8 million last year. This was despite the difficult circumstances through which this sector passed during the year. An official source at the Bahrain Monetary Agency said that according to figures issued by the Statistics and Oil Directorates of the Ministry of Development and Industry, Bahrain's oil exports amounted to BD 972 million last December. Its imports of oil derivatives were BD 536.2 million for the same period. The source also said that although there was a decrease in the balance of trade surplus last year compared with 1982, the decrease was of limited significance, since Bahrain's oil exports in 1982 amounted to BD 1.18 billion compared to its imports of BD 693.8 million. [Text] [Manama *GULF DAILY NEWS* in English 25 Apr 84 p 1 GF]

KUWAIT

Egyptian Role in Inter-Arab Affairs Examined

GF212014 Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 20 Apr 84 pp 1, 17

[Editorial: "Egypt...and the Hands of the Clock"]

[Excerpts] The developments in the Gulf region and the Middle East in general — in the context of interrelationships among the Arab states — will remain enigmatic and continue to bear question marks searching for clear-cut answers.

Perhaps one of the fatal mistakes that was made was to imagine that secluding Egypt could speed up the finding of solutions or help in accomplishing missions on the national level. This mistake in calculations increased the intensity of division and led to confusion, which in turn resulted in further improper practices and a fatal attitude. Those who wagered on Egypt's seclusion fell into contradictions. The Egyptian role did not diminish, but remained active and effective with regard to the Lebanese crisis, the Palestinian issue, or the Iraqi-Iranian war.

To go further, we can say that the paralysis that the Arab efforts suffered at one stage did not effect Egyptian diplomacy, especially at the stage of the U.S.-Israeli attack on Lebanon and the Palestinian issue.

Here we find it strange that some people insist in theory on loosening their ties with Cairo while being involved with it in searching for solutions and settlements for crises and all the time remaining in the background, while benefiting from its good relations, its status, and its weight in the regional and international levels.

This picture poses a number of puzzling questions: How could the unity of the Arab ranks be achieved while Egypt is still suffering from the burden of political decisions for events which have been superseded and nullified? How could a political settlement for the conflict be talked about without Egypt participating in this settlement and giving it what guarantees its continuity?

The questions are many and the answers to them are clear and readily available. However, the problem is that nobody has enough courage to admit the truth. It does not harm Egypt to stay outside the Arab League because of a political decision. However, what really hurts is for the gamble to fail and for the Arabs to be estranged. Despite that, they insist on turning the clock back.

QATAR

Official Departs for Arab Satellite Meeting

GF201712 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1100 GMT 20 Apr 84

[Excerpts] Doha, 20 Apr (WAKH) — Mr Ahmad 'Ali Ma'rafiyah, Qatari Communications and Transport Ministry under secretary, left Doha for Amman this morning to attend the meetings of the 28th session of the Arab Space Communications Corporation's board which will begin there tomorrow and will last for 3 days.

Prior to his departure from Doha, Mr Ahmad 'Ali Ma'rafiyah stated that the Arab satellite project which is being supervised by the corporation — which was founded in 1976 — is considered the first Arab project in which all the Arab countries will take part. He added that the satellite will be launched at an altitude of 36,000 km above the equator in order to provide the basic services in the field of wire and wireless communication among the Arab states, mainly in the transmission and reception of telephone, telegraph, telex, and television communications.

In a statement to QNA, Mr Ma'rafiyah said that this project will provide many other services, including the use of television channels for conference purposes, electronic post services, collection of meteorological data from distant areas, reception oftelevision transmissions from distant locations, implementation of the booking system of airline companies, relaying of data on air navigation among the Arab states, and assistance for the Arab network of printing newspapers in various parts of the world at the same time.

The Qatari official pointed out that the Arab satellite will constitute the bridge through which telephone communications and television programs will be transmitted among the various parts of the Arab world and which will facilitate communications among these countries, a factor which will greatly enhance communications abouts events and news among the countries of the Arab world.

Mr Ahmad Ma'rafiyah explained that the capacity of the Arab satellite will reach 8,000 telephone channels, 7 local and regional television channels, and 1 collective television channel. He indicated that the satellites to be used in "Arabsat" will be of three types. The first will assume an orbit along the meridian 19 degrees East; this is the main satellite. The second will assume an orbit along the meridian 26 degrees East, and this will serve as a standby satellite. The third will remain on the ground as a reserve, in addition to the ground stations that will be built in every country, the two control and observation stations, the main station in Riyadh, and the support station in Tunis.

About the measures adopted to program reception in the GCC states, Mr Ma'rafiyah said that the Arab Space Communications Corporation is in charge of designing, excuting, and operating the Arab space communications network, and that the Arab countries have to contact the corporation to book the programs they desire to receive from the other countries.

He stressed that there will not be any problem in the booking process due to the available resources in the Arab satellite, indicating that the GCC states are thinking of leasing channels exclusively for their own use to enable them to have a greater ability to relay communications and events without prior booking.

He said that the Arab satellite will be of great benefit to those Arab countries with large areas such as Saudi Arabia, Sudan, and Algeria, since these countries can lease a channel from the Arab satellite in order to relay telephone communications and other services via local stations.

SAUDI ARABIA

Reportage on Visit by Jordan's King Husayn

Husayn Arrives in Al-Madinah

LD240941 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0837 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Al-Madinah, 24 Apr (SPA) — King Husayn of Jordan arrived here at 1045 today on a visit to the Prophet's Mosque and to perform prayers.

King Fahd Welcomes Husayn

LD241208 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1127 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Excerpts] Riyadh, 24 Apr (SPA) — King Husayn of Jordan arrived in Riyadh at 1315 today and was welcomed at the airport by King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

King Husayn is accompanied on his visit to the Kingdom by Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat; chief of the Royal Cabinet Marwan al-Qasim; Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces Ash-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir; and Prince Abdallah ibn Husayn.

King Fahd Fetes Husayn

LD242151 Riyadh SPA in English 2009 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] Riyadh, April 24, SPA — His Majesty King Fahd gave a dinner party in honour of visiting Jordanian King Husayn. The party was attended by Saudi Second Deputy Premier and Defence and Aviation Minister Prince Sultan, cabinet ministers and high-ranking officials.

Kings Begin Talks

LD242207 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2057 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] Riyadh, 24 Apr (SPA) — The Saudi-Jordanian talks began tonight chaired by King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and King Husayn of Jordan.

On the Saudi side the talks were attended by His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Second Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense and Aviation; His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister; and Ibrahim as-Sultan, the Kingdom's ambassador to Jordan.

On the Jordanian side the talks were attended by Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn al-Husayn; Chief of the Royal Court Marwan al-Qasim; and Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces Ash-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir.

Talks Continue 25 Apr

LD251111 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1040 GMT 25 Apr 84

[Text] Riyadh, 25 Apr (SPA) — Saudi-Jordanian talks were resumed this afternoon under the chairmenship of His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and His Majesty King Husayn of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. The talks were attended on the Saudi side by His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, the foreign minister, and by Ibrahim as-Sultan, the Saudi ambassador to Jordan. The Jordanian side was represented by Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat, head of the Royal Court Marwan al-Qasim, and Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir.

The Saudi-Jordanian talks began last night.

Strong Rebuff to El Salvador Embassy Move Necessary

PM241658 Riyadh AL-JAZIRAH in Arabic 19 Apr 84 p 3

[Editorial: "What El Salvador Needs Is a Strong Blow"]

[Text] El Salvador's decision to move its Embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem was, apparently, meant to be more than just a move in violation of the UN Charter, international law, and UN Security Council Resolution 478 of 20 August 1980, which repudiates all Israeli political, administrative, and legal steps connected with Israel's annexation of Jerusalem and its declaration of Jerusalem as its undivided capital. That resolution commits all UN member states not to support the Israeli measures, so as to ensure that Jerusalem remains, as it was before the Israeli occupation, a free city and the cradle of all divine religions, a city of many Islamic, Christian, and Jewish holy shrines. The aim of El Salvador's decision was to provoke the Arab and Islamic states and challenge their historical and legal right to occupied Jerusalem.

The danger in El Salvador's decision is that it is a deliberate blow to Arab and Islamic rights in occupied Jerusalem, a blow in the interest of the Israeli aim of erasing these rights from the records of ancient, medieval, and contemporary history.

It would be futile for us Arabs and Muslims to focus our attention on the stated and unstated reasons which encouraged El Salvador to recognize Jerusalem as Israel's undivided capital and to move its Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. Arabs and Muslims, however, would do well to consider how to respond to El Salvador's blow and take up its challenge and act in such a way as to make El Salvador regret its decision before forcing it to revoke that decision.

El Salvador is a small state in South [as published] America. It is one of those South American states living under uneviable political, economic, and security conditions. In its extremely poor and critical condition, El Salvador may not hear Arab and Islamic protests. It seems to be one of those states which are now convinced that the Arab and Islamic states are no longer capable of doing anything beyond political, diplomatic, and media protests. What is needed, to make it hear the Arab and Islamic voices, is Arab-Islamic joint action which would have a violent effect on it at both regional and international levels — action which would make it understand that the Arabs and Muslims are not as weak and incapable of defending their historical and legal rights in occupied Jerusalem as it thinks, action as firm and strong as its decision to move its embassy to Jerusalem is provocative and defiant to all Arabs and Muslims.

El Salvador is not so strong, unlike the United States, as to be unaffected by a joint Arab-Islamic blow such as a complete Arab-Islamic boycott and discontinuation of the privileges granted to El Salvador by the Arab and Islamic countries. El Salvador is not so strong that it would not mind the threat to its interests in the Arab and Islamic states. When it realizes the damage to its interests, it will be compelled to reconsider its decision. Its experience with the Arab and Islamic states will be so severe that other states, great and small, including the United States, will think twice before taking the step which El Salvador has taken.

We can say that El Salvador's decision to move its Embassy to Jerusalem was dictated not so much by its interests in the Arab and Islamic countries as by international forces which support Israel and which want to use El Salvador, that small state, as a test to find out what kind of action the Arabs and Muslims will take against any state, big or small, which contemplates adopting a decision similar to El Salvador's.

The Arabs and Muslims must pass this test and succeed. By success we mean that the Arabs and Muslims should take joint action that would fall violently on the head of El Salvador, just like the blows of 'Antar ibn Shaddad [legendary Arab hero] which felled the weak and the cowardly who, seeing 'Antar's courage and strength, were afraid to face him and retreated, avoiding his blows.

We Arabs and Muslims must surely know that there is more than one El Salvador in the world, that there are others who wish to do what El Salvador of South America has done. We must also

realize that big international powers side with Israel and support it against the Arabs and the Muslims. They are the states which drive such states as El Salvador in South America and other states in Asia and Africa to recognize occupied Jerusalem as Israel's capital.

Unless we deal El Salvador a decisive blow to make it back down, many states will undoubtedly follow its example. Only joint Arab-Islamic action can prevent such a strong possibility from becoming a reality and prevent a repetition of El Salvador's move. The UN Security Council and the General Assembly can do nothing, nor can anyone else. The Security Council and the General Assembly have lost their prestige and even their ability to uphold the UN Charter, international law, and the numerous resolutions which have been so violated and defied by such countries as El Salvador. We Arabs and Muslims do not want to lose our prestige and ability to uphold and protect our rights against those lying in wait to attack us and our rights.

Need for Defense of Islamic Shrines Stressed

GF221146 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 22 Apr 84

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] In its editorial, the newspaper *AL-JAZIRAH* said that the biggest threat which the Islamic holy places are being subjected to in the occupied territories, foremost of which is the blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem by the Zionist plans, has become the most urgent issue to the Muslims more than anytime, because this threat is the biggest and most complicated challenge which the Arab and Islamic nations are facing since Israel's occupation of the Arab territories in 1967 and its announcement of annexing Jerusalem as its unified capital in 1980.

Israel is currently taking quick and continued steps in its plan which is aimed at the judaization of Jerusalem first and other occupied Arab territories later, because Jerusalem, in Israel's view, represents the heart of Arab and Islamic rights and stabbing the heart is always fatal. This is what Israel is trying to do now, stabbing the heart of Arab and Islamic rights in order to liquidate them and their issue, which is the core of its dispute with the Arabs.

AL-JAZIRAH said that the big threat to Jerusalem's fate, including its Islamic holy places, makes the responsibility of the Arabs and Muslims to defend those holy places the most important, urgent and difficult Arab and Islamic responsibility more than any time, a responsibility which needs all the courage, power and work of the Arabs and Muslims.

UAE

National Council Approves Islamic-Based Law

GF241158 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Excerpt] The National Federal Council today approved in its session — which was held under the chairmanship of Hilal Ahmad Motah, chairman of the Council — the draft of a federal law dealing with civil transactions and containing 1,528 articles. This is regarded as the first step to conduct civil transactions in the UAE in accordance with Islamic law.

Chief of Staff Returns From Visit to Bahrain

GF241503 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1450 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Excerpt0) Abu Dhabi, 24 Apr (WAKH) — Staff Brigadier General Muhammad Sa'id al-Badi, chief of staff of the UAE Armed Forces, returned to Abu Dhabi from Manama this afternoon after a 3-day visit.

Severance of El Salvador, Costa Rica Ties Advocated

GF241336 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0710 GMT 24 Apr 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 24 Apr (WAM) — The UAE newspaper *AL-WAHDAH* has welcomed the positive response of the Arab countries to the latest resolution issued by the Jerusalem Committee to sever diplomatic relations with Costa Rica and El Salvador following the transfer of their embassies from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. The paper went on to say that this resolution "represents the noble origin and the unity of the national feeling toward belittlement of the rights of the Arab Palestinian people in their land and in their holy places."

The paper then termed the positive response of Arab Egypt to the resolutions of the Jerusalem Committee as being "the first effective reaction to the restoration of its membership in the ICO." The paper expressed hope that the decision made by Egypt "will be a positive phenomenon that will signal a radical change in the effects of the Camp David accords." The paper asserted that the commitment to the resolutions of the Jerusalem Committee with regard to breaking off relations with countries that establish new ties with Israel at the expense of the Arab-Palestinian people is an act that entails unity of opinion and ranks in addition to sincerity in resisting the evils of Israel, its extreme arrogance, and its aggression against the Palestinian people and all the Arabs. The paper accentuated that "this first step will be followed by stronger steps in the direction of building up a unified Arab strategy that guarantees Arab moves on all the fronts of the joint struggle."

Anniversary of Sinai Liberation Day Marked

Mubarak Makes Speech

NC250933 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0815 GMT 25 Apr 84

[Speech delivered by President Muhammad Husni Mubarak on the second anniversary of the liberation of Sinai — live from Cairo television studio]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful.

Fellow citizens: Today when we celebrate the second anniversary of the liberation of the good soil and the withdrawal of the last foreign soldier from the sacred soil [of Sinai], we are celebrating a number of ideas and values. These ideas and values should always be the burning torches that light our path while we give the purest sweat and the noblest efforts for our national struggle and for the sake of the homeland and citizen's dignity.

The first of these ideas is that the land is honor. We will not spare our blood and lives for a single hour or minute in protecting our land and honor against any aggression. The sons of Egypt in the Egyptian Army set the most valiant examples of heroism, sacrifice, and courage in the immortal October [1973] epic. Flags were hoisted over the liberated territories, with heads and shoulders held high. If 25 April is a holiday for all Egyptians, it is a great holiday for the Armed Forces. On that day the dear homeland reaped the fruits of its forces' heroism, sacrifice, and courage.

Today we remember the courage of the living, but we will never forget our dutiful and pure martyrs who sacrificed their lives in order to give life to Egypt. I believe that the second idea of the anniversary of the land liberation is loyalty: loyalty to everyone who has contributed on the battlefield and in very position on the domestic front toward achieving the most exalted aim and noblest objective.

The duty of loyalty requires us today to remember with all pride and deference the courageous, heroic leader Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat, whose name, action, and struggle will remain in the purest pages of history. He will remain a symbol of determination, courage, and redemption for the sake of Egypt, in war and in peace.

The third idea we must mention on this great day is that land sovereignty does not mean only its liberation from a foreign occupation but also its liberation from all obstacles that prevent each citizen from obtaining his full right in a dignified life, freedom, and work. The freedom of the citizen under the umbrella of justice and law, and guaranteeing his basic needs are a right that he must exercise and enjoy in his free land.

We must struggle, while living on our free land, to continue to provide the citizen's right to work, to secure his work, and to protect it from any injustice or arbitrariness.

We have liberated this territory and this should help us raise our prospects, double our efforts, and release our creative and constructive potentials. A productive society should emerge and develop into a stage of self-sufficiency in the areas of food and clothing. This can be achieved if we utilize our land and the minds and hands of our people. If this is done, the economic and social development plan will attain its desired targets and we will embark on a self-sustained course of progress.

There is a fourth idea we should consider today: that stability is a prerequisite for any success and progress.

Praise God that, despite all the shattering challenges which we have met, Egypt has shown and is still showing an exemplary perseverence that has received global acclaim in both the East and West. This is something we achieved despite the fact that we live in one of the most inflamed areas on earth, surrounded by the worst scenes of power struggle and conflict.

The stability we have gained has enabled us to play a leading role — a role historically destined to us — in attempt to bring peace, to halt destructive wars, and to achieve some fruitful cooperation which can replace all this fragmentation and hostility.

This is why I argue that peace is not only a responsibility of state institutions, but also a responsibility of the people as a whole — the people who reap the fruits of such stability. The enemies of stability are the enemies of life. The great people of Egypt are nothing if not creators of life — life which acquires meaning through benevolence and love, cooperation and care. This is a free and stable country, and it belongs to all of us.

Brother compatriots, our celebration of the anniversary of the complete liberation of our sacred soil coincides with propitious days during which the people are preparing to elect their representatives to the People's Assembly, which constitutes the legislative and controlling authority in our democratic constitutional system. The various political parties have announced their election programs and candidate lists. Every party is now engaged in advocating its programs in complete freedom. There are no restrictions on the right of expression in public meetings as well as in the press.

It is the right of all of us to take pride in the healthy democratic atmosphere we are now experiencing. No one can deny that Egypt, in its contemporary history and over a period of 60 years, has experienced such democratic prosperity in the expression of all views and in the propounding of opinions. A supporter has no privilege over an opponent. Those who say yes have no preference over those who say no. In casting his ballot, the citizen is controlled only by his conscience and conviction. God willing, the elections will take place in complete honesty and impartiality. We do not want our democratic heritage to suffer a setback; we want it to gain further prosperity that will create a free citizen who can build on his free land.

All I wish for is that the parties, in their various inclinations, will maintain what we have attained, and that every party will make sure the genuine principle is observed in the election competition; not merely reiterated slogans but sincere studied opinion, and not by uttering rash words of oneupmanship but through a spirit of sportsmanship that accepts defeat just as it accepts victory. He who wins a parliamentary seat and he who loses such a seat are both Egyptians. The People's Assembly is the assembly of Egypt with all its views. Even if one candidate should lose a parliamen-

tary seat, we would want Egypt to attain a parliamentary assembly and to be a true expression of the will of the electorate.

The observance of the principle of ethics in the election competition is the twin of the observance of the law. The law is only a regulation of society's relations on the basis of ethics. Let us bear in mind that world public opinion is following the Egyptian elections with utmost interest now that the Egyptian state of affairs has convinced this opinion that democracy in Egypt is a bright fact and not a false mask. This should make the candidates and the electorate increase their responsibility to preserve the purity of the essence and appearance of this bright fact. This can be achieved by the elections taking place, until their results are announced, in an honorable framework and a manner in which we take pride. We will thus give a good example to the new generations who look to the future with hearts that should pulsate with complete confidence in that the people are the master and that all the state's constitutional powers are the offspring of the free popular will.

Brother compatriots, I ask Almighty God to guide us along the sound and wise course leading to our welfare. I also pray that 25 April of every year will be a turning point in our life toward a new dawn whose light will guide us to serious work, confidence, and hope. May God's peace, mercy, and blessing be upon you.

Tribute Paid to As-Sadat

NC241409 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] On the second anniversary of the regaining of Sinai, President Muhammad Husni Mubarak this morning laid wreaths on the tombs of the unknown soldier and of the late President Anwar as-Sadat. The president read the first sura, imploring God to have mercy on their pure souls.

Illustrates Victory of 'Will'

NC241441 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Ahmad al-Qasir commentary: "The Liberation of Sinai Is the First Step Toward Liberating All the Occupied Arab Territories"]

[Text] Egypt's observation of the second anniversary of the liberation of Sinai tomorrow illustrates the victory of the will of both the Egyptian people and all the Arab people. It confirms the Arab people's capability of regaining Arab dignity, of liberating Arab land, and of regaining legitimate rights, regardless of the challanges and forces trying to obstruct the attainment of this objective.

While the world at large may view the liberation of Sinai and the restoration of this cherished part to the motherland as a natural result, and as a crowning of the Egyptian soldier's victory, of his capability to defend his country, and of clinging to his land and soil, as was the case in October 1973, we view the liberation of beloved Sinai from a different angle. We believe that the liberation of Sinai is first and foremost a first step on the road to liberating all occupied Arab territory in the West Bank, the Golan Heights, southern Lebanon, and, primarily, Arab Jerusalem, in its capacity as an integral part of the West Bank. On the other hand, the liberation of Sinai affirms that the methods of war, persecution, the annexation of the land of others by force, and the denial of legitimate rights would never yield regional gains — political or military. Consequently, these methods would bring neither peace nor stability to the Middle East. Every action brings a reaction, which could sometimes reach the ultimate state of violence, as was recently witnessed inside the occupied Arab territories.

Egypt, which chose the strategy of peace as the sole road for the achievement of peace and stability in the Arab region after October 1973, reaffirms on this occasion its concern for achieving a just peace in the Middle East within a comprehensive and just political settlement that would guarantee the legitimate rights of all peoples, including the Arab Palestinian people, and particularly their right to set up their independent state on their national soil. At the same time, Egypt stresses the need for the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanon and for lifting its domination over Lebanon, especially since history has proven that the methods of force and expansion at the expense of others and the imposition of a fait accompli can never bring positive results, even to those who are practicing these methods.

The liberation of Sinai should be a lesson to those who are trying to foment an atmosphere of chaos and disturbance in the Arab area in an attempt to attain regional expansionist designs or to cast doubt on Egypt's Arabism and its responsibility toward its Arab nation, particularly its responsibility for defending it against any foreign aggression. This anniversary must prompt all the Arabs to close their ranks, mend their differences, and put aside their peripheral battles, as was the case in 1973. This is the sole way to liberate the land and to regain the usurped Palestinian rights.

Press Hails Anniversary

NC241153 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0525 GMT 24 Apr 84

[From the press review]

[Text] *AL-AKHBAR*'s editorial today deals with Egypt's celebration tomorrow of the second anniversary of the liberation of Sinai. The paper begins its editorial by saying: Sinai returned 2 years ago to the lap of the motherland. A new phase began in the life of the Sinai. It has witnessed the biggest reconstruction and building action for its development. The horizons of the future have begun to appear clearly over Sinai's soil following the return of the sacred land to us. The beginnings of dozens of projects in various fields have started to appear on the beloved soil.

The paper calls on youths to increase their participation in the reconstruction of Sinai, saying that their actual participation is minimal. It adds that youths also should be encouraged to go to Sinai and settle there to reconstruct it and increase its population. The paper also calls for speeding up the exploitation and development of Sinai, for the serious implementation of the projects

and for the provision of skilled workers for these projects to make a better future for our country.

The paper concludes its editorial by saying: While celebrating today the 2-year lapse since the restoration of Sinai to Egypt, we can only greet the great Egyptian people who have struggled for the sake of peace and for the sake of war. This anniversary comes while Egypt is emphasizing its policy of establishing just and lasting peace in the Middle East and solving the Palestinian issue.

Under the headline "Sinai: The Liberation and the Course" *AL-AHRAM* says on its opinion page: These days mark the anniversary of the liberation of Sinai: These days raise the hope, determination, and action of all honest Egyptians for the sake of this nation's prosperity and dignity. The paper emphasizes that the liberation of Sinai was not merely the attainment of an objective where hopes stopped, but it was the start of a new Egyptian surge along the course of action and reconstruction. We are not saying that all ambitions have been fulfilled, but it is sufficient that achievements continue in high spirit, not only in this retrieved precious part of Egypt's soil, but in all fields.

Ghazalah Views Anniversary

NC241549 Cairo MENA in English 1515 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] Cairo, April 24 (MENA) — Deputy Premier and Defense Minister Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah said that the big integrated projects for the rehabilitation of Sinai which were conducted by foreign consultancy houses, the Egyptian universities and the Armed Forces revealed that Sinai is rich in resources.

In an interview with the Egyptian television on the occasion of the second anniversary of the liberation of Sinai, Abu Ghazalah said that a study is underway on the establishment of Ad-Dayyiqah Dam at the southern entrance of Al-'Arish. It could store behind it 250 million cubic metres of water during rain years.

He added that this quantity would be sufficient to change Al-'Arish Valley to an agriculture community.

Speaking about the defense force in Sinai, Abu Ghazalah affirmed that the forces in Sinai are capable of defending it under ordinary circumstances, adding that Sinai had never had more than one division in hard times.

Abu Ghazalah added that Sinai is not demilitarized though there are some restrictions on the volume of the forces there.

These restrictions are imposed to avoid any mobilization of forces close to the Israeli borders, adding that these restrictions are also imposed on part of Israel lands.

He further said that it was wrong to mobilize the main forces at the borders as the major defence line in Sinai are the passages which are not in the area under military restrictions.

On the growing military capacity of Israel, Abu Ghazalah said that this should not disturb us as the plan for the development of the Egyptian Armed Forces is satisfactorily being carried out. He further said that within few years, the Egyptian Armed Forces would have a deterrent force that could repel any aggression.

He added that Israeli military strategy is built on military supremacy over all the Arab countries collectively.

He further said that there is international cooperation to keep the Arab nation within a specific frame, adding that this frame should be broken through military industrialisation, Arab solidarity and the defining of an Arab strategic target to enable us to define the volume of groth of any military threat, whatever it is.

Abu Ghazalah said that Israel is not the sole source of threat, adding that there are threats from other directions that should be well considered.

On Egyptian military industrialization, he said that 99 percent of the ammunition and spare parts of arms used by the Armed Forces are manufactured in Egypt.

The Egyptian military factories produce the Alpha Jet and are currently manufacturing an advanced training plane.

He added that the factories started to manufacture the Mirage 2000, which would be seen flying in Egypt next year.

The defense minister said that Egypt has also started to manufacture tanks following its success in manufacturing the armoured vehicle "Fahd" which surpassed the Spanish, Brazilian and French types and whose cost is half the cost of its foreign likes.

In the field of anti-aircraft missiles, the Egyptian factories succeeded to produce and Egyptian missile called "Hawk Eye" and the factories are starting the manufacture of long-range missiles.

Regarding the AWACS planes, Abu Ghazalah said that these planes were used to give early monitring of any threat and that they would be manned by an Egyptian crew when they arrive in Egypt and not by an American crew, as is the case in many other countries.

On the Egyptian and Sudanese Armed Forces, the defense minister said that he believes in the importance of integration for both Egypt and Sudan.

He further said that as military men "we" believe that Egypt is a strategic depth for the Sudan and the Sudan is a depth for Egypt, adding that any threat to the Sudan would result in stopping Upper Nile water projects.

He added that Egypt cannot accept an anti-Egypt regime in Sudan as it is in Egypt's interests to live in peace and integration with a faithful brother.

Chadian Minister Arrives in Cairo 24 Apr

Brings Message for Mubarak

NC241215 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1210 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] Cairo, 24 Apr (MENA) — Lassou Gouaro, Chadian minister of higher education, arrived in Cairo this afternoon on a visit to Egypt of several days, during which he will convey a message from Chadian President Hissein Habre to President Husni Mubarak. The message comes within the framework of consultations between the two presidents on issues related to the situation in the Middle East and in light of the friendship that binds the two countries.

The Chadian minister was received at the airport by Ambassador Samir Mukhtar, deputy director of African affairs at the Foreign Ministry.

Meets Ghali

NC251144 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1132 GMT 25 Apr 84

[Text] Cairo, 25 Apr (MENA) — Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, today received Lassou Gouardo, Chadian minister of higher education and scientific research, who is currently visiting Cairo as the personal envoy of the Chadian president to convey a message to President Husni Mubarak.

Dr Ghali discussed with the Chadian envoy the situation in Chad in light of recent developments. The Egyptian minister emphasized Cairo's support for Chad's legitimate government and its efforts to preserve Chad's national unity, independence, and sovereignty.

Mubarak Receives Islamic Education Official

NC240910 Cairo MENA in English 0903 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] Cairo, 24 Apr (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak received this morning at Al-'Urubah palace the Secretary General of the Islamic Organisation for Education, Sciences and Culture 'Abd al-Hadi Butalib. The meeting was attended by Dr Mustafa Kamal Hilmi deputy prime minister and minister of education and scientific research.

Egypt has decided to join the Islamic Organisation for Education, Sciences and Culture which stems from the Islamic Conference Organisation, following the resolution of the recent Casablanca Islamic summit to invite Egypt to re-activate its membership of the organisation.

Cooperation Prospects Viewed

NC241052 Cairo MENA in English 1020 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] Cairo, 24 Apr (MENA) — Secretary General of the Islamic Organisation for Education, Sciences and Culture 'Abd al-Hadi Butalib said that he reviewed with President Husni Mubarak today the prospects of cooperation between Egypt and the organisation. Egypt has just joined the organisation, when it signed two days ago its basic regulations.

Butalib said that scopes are ample for cooperation between Egypt and the organisation.

On another subject, Butalib said that the organisation's executive board will meet in September in the organisation's headquarters in Casablanca, Morocco. The board comprises the nine member-states of the general congress plus six public figures.

Butalib said that the organisation will also convene a conference of Islamic education and culture ministers this summer in Islamabad, Pakistan. It will be attended for the first time by the Egyptian minister of education.

'Ali Interview on Current Issues Cited

NC251115 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1018 GMT 25 Apr 84

[Text] Kuwait, 25 Apr (MENA) — Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, expressed Egypt's willingness to abide by any strategic Arab plan to confront the continued Israeli occupation of Lebanon and the policy of building up settlements in the occupied Arab territories.

In an interview with the Kuwaiti paper *AL-QABAS* published today, 'Ali said this can only be done through Arab solidarity, effective commitment, and a comprehensive outlook on how to resolve Arab issues.

The deputy prime minister and foreign minister spoke about the Iraq-Iran war. He said Egypt is moving within the framework of the Nonaligned Movement to find the means for stopping the bloodshed between the two Muslim countries. He pointed out Egypt's attempts, through its seat on the UN Security Council, to issue resolutions guaranteeing that the situation in the Gulf does not escalate, as this will internationalize the issue. He stressed that there is still hope for ending this war.

On relations with Israel following recent developments, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said these relations have reached the stage of a frozen peace. This is natural following Israel's pursuance of the settlement policy and its invasion of Lebanon. He stressed that Egypt has not abandoned its pan-Arab duties, which it has emphasized on numerous occasions such as when the Iraqi nuclear reactor was attacked, when the Iranians attempted to invade Iraqi territories, and when 'Arafat left Beirut in September 1982 and Tripoli after the Syrian and Israeli siege.

He described the elections now taking place in Egypt as representing the epitome of democracy and honesty. He added that President Husni Mubarak and the government are very eager to apply the democratic concept and practice and that these elections should by any measure be a successful experience.

Decision on Embassy Transfers To Set Example

NC240954 Cairo Palestine Radio in Arabic 0630 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Mazin ash-Shawwa commentary]

[Text] Simultaneous with Nigeria's decision to raise the level of

the PLO mission's representation in its capital, Lagos, to that of an embassy, and its strong inclination not to reopen the Israeli Embassy, El Salvador transferred its Embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

Nigeria showed wisdom in its decision, which reflects the extent of its understanding of the facts and dimensions of the Israeli-Arab struggle and its desire to strengthen relations with the Arab and Muslim nations. El Salvador made a mistake when it decided to transfer its Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. This decision reflects its disregard for all UN and Security Council resolutions, and the principles of international law, and is a challenge to the general consensus. It also is a challenge to the sensitivities of the Arab and Muslim nations. El Salvador wants to improve its relations with a single country at the expense of the Arab and Islamic countries.

Egypt's decision to sever diplomatic relations with El Salvador and Costa Rica is a warning to other countries contemplating a similar stand and transferring their embassies from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. We have no doubt that the cohesiveness of the Arab and Islamic ranks will alter international stances and conduct. To become a positive, active, and effective power in the international arena we must immediately bring back Arab solidarity and action at the Islamic level. Our strength lies in our unity and our weakness lies in our divisions. It is impossible for us to be an effective and influential force in the international arena without a unified stand and unified action or movement.

The world and international community's respect for us will undoubtedly increase when they realize that we do constitute an effective and influential force. Then we will be taken into account. However, the danger lies in our divisions because this entices our adversaries and those who covet us, makes their mouths water, and encourages them to provoke us and challenge our sensitivities.

Undoubtedly a return to Arab solidarity and action at the Islamic level requires a well-conceived strategy and well studied plan of action that organizes the relations of the Arab and Islamic countries and defines these relations with ohter countries of the world. All Arab and Muslim countries must abide by this strategy and plan because this certainly is the only course and the best way to serve our Arab and Islamic nations.

Israel's Motives for Protest Questioned

NC250624 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0525 GMT 25 Apr 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline: "An Unacceptable Protest," *AL-AHRAM* writes: No one knows why Israel has protested to Egypt over the latter's severance of diplomatic relations with El Salvador and Costa Rica. What are the reasonable motives and what are the logical justifications behind this sick protest, which is nothing more than unacceptable interference in a sovereign action carried out by a sovereign state in its foreign relations?

AL-AHRAM adds that Egypt has implicitly accepted that the measures taken by El Salvador and Costa Rica are in the end matters that concern these two countries' policies despite objections to these measures. These measures, in fact, require a protest because they infringe on the interests of Egypt, the Islamic world, and even the Christian world because they concern matters not compatible with UN resolutions that consider Arab Jerusalem as part of the occupied territories.

AL-AHRAM concludes its editorial by saying: The only reason for Israel's protest could be to confound Egypt's stand and to reassure other countries that Israel will continue to support them through all means if these countries make similar decisions.

President: Pilots Ready To Fight Israeli Air Force

JN251200 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1100 GMT 25 Apr 84

["Text" of speech by President Saddam Husayn delivered after awarding medals of valor to Air Force commander and other officers in Baghdad on 25 April — read by announcer]

[Text] Our confidence in our pilots is great. There is no difference between the Zionist enemy and the Iranian enemy. The Zionists and Iranians were trained on the same aircraft and at the same U.S. school. The ones who fought against the Iranian Air Force when it was at its best — its role has now ended, retreated, and become isolated — can fight the Israeli Air Force if that Air Force wants to engage in dogfights. The Israelis will discover that never in their lives have they faced such men.

We are ready to meet them whether they come stealthily or openly. We would be glad if they came openly so that our men could have the opportunity to fight them and prove to them and to the world that the training of Iraqi pilots surpasses any training given to other men in the field of dogfights.

Armed Forces Communique No 1,445 - 24 April

JN241641 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Communique No 1,445 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 24 April 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With outstanding courage, our heroic Armed Forces are continuing their brave operations in defense of our rights, principles, and sovereignty. The results for last night and today are as follows:

1. Formations of our daring helicopter gunships today carried out effective raids on enemy units and positions east of Tigris. They destroyed three boats, one of which was carrying personnel. Our helicopters returned successfully and safely to base, praise be to God.

2. Using various weapons, one of our forward units pounded enemy positions and engineering equipment east of Basra, killing one and destroying one armored carrier and one hardware stockpile.

3. Using various weapons, one of our forward units pounded enemy positions opposite our units in the northern sector. Our unit destroyed three infantry positions, killing or wounding those inside. It also destroyed one observation post and one hardware stockpile.

4. One observation post was destroyed in the central sector of the front.

5. The criminal Iranian rulers last night and today used heavy artillery to shell Basra and Mandali and their environs. The shelling martyred a child and another civilian, injured one child and two other civilians, and damaged one house, one civilian car, and a number of civilian establishments in Basra. The shelling also damaged and inflicted losses on a number of civilian establishment in Mandali.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 24 April 1984

Foreign Minister Holds Talks With Cheysson in France

For a Paris AFP report on the visit to France by Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz and his talks with French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson on the Iraq-Iran war and other issues in the Middle East, see the France section of the 23 April Western Europe *DAILY REPORT*.

Ramadan Arrives in Moscow on Official Visit

For Soviet and Iraqi coverage of First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan's official visit to the Soviet Union, including reports on his arrival in Moscow and his meeting with Council of Ministers Chairman Nikolay Tikhonov, see the Middle East & Africa section of the 25 April Soviet Union *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

Iranian Clergyman Continues Attacks on Khomeyni

'Henchmen' Accused of Assassinations

JN240834 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0710 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] Baghdad, 24 Apr (INA) — Iranian opposition clergyman 'Ali Tehrani has announced that Khomeyni stands behind the competition and power struggles in Iran and that his henchmen are responsible for the assassinations taking place in the country.

In his daily talk in Persian over the Iraqi radio and television Tehrani indicated that a leading figure in Khomeyni's regime was involved in the assassination of Ayatollah Motahheri and that he possesses evidence which he will reveal in the near future. He added: They assassinated Motahheri because of his good relationship with Medhi Bazargan, prime minister of the provisional Iranian government formed after the shah's downfall.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Tehrani, who is married to Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i's sister, said that Ayatollah Beheshti, former leader of the Republican Party who was killed with 70 other Iranian personalities in an explosion at the party's headquarters in June 1981, was considered by Khomeyni a persona non grata. He added: Beheshti wanted to become a president of the republic, but Khomeyni objected to this and chose Bani-Sadr. Competition then began and this is the game taking place now.

Tehrani then talked about the situation in the Iranian universities and how interference in their affairs led to the escape of scholars and intellectuals from Iran. He said: America is trying to preserve Khomeyni's regime with the aim of repressing opposition and looting the Iranian people's wealth.

He stressed that more than 10,000 youths who effectively participated in the revolution against the shah were executed.

Concluding, he said that by its insistence on continuing the war against Iraq, the Khomeyni regime has secured the interests of imperialism and prompted Israel to occupy southern Lebanon.

Dishonesty of Regime Described

GF241851 Baghdad Television Service in Persian 0900 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Talk in series by Iranian cleric Hojjat ol-Eslam Tehrani — live or recorded; date not given]

[Excerpts] I mentioned some of the Khomeyni regime's major accomplishments yesterday. I will mention some more today. However, these are only samples because they have done many things. One of their major accomplishments was that after 11 February [date of Iranian revolution], instead of building the country, instead of working toward economic, cultural, and industrial self-sufficiency, or building roads, building dams, and reclaiming land as promised in the constitution, they began marching, shouting slogans, and gathering in squares. At one time they talked about having the shah returned so that his property could be confiscated. They even engaged lawyers to fight for the return of the money he had sent abroad. In this regard they also incited the people, and at fabulous expense they brought people into the squares, where they held meetings. They also spent a great deal of money abroad in an effort to get the shah's properties returned. You saw how it all ended.

Another of their major accomplishments was the competition for the election of a president and the rifts that it created between the clergy and the laymen. I was very much involved in those events. At a session discussing the constitution, all those who were attached to the Islamic Republican Party [IRP], and they were a majority, insisted that Bani-Sadr — sorry, Beheshti — should be the president It was very apparent then that they were vying with each other. However, I do not know if there was a secret alliance or if there were any resolutions made earlier in France. Khomeyni was of the opinion that the clergy should not hold executive office. In fact, he himself had said that the clergy should not be involved in executive matters; that is, noclergyman should become president or prime minister and that executive office should be held by others.

Khomeyni wanted Bani-Sadr to become the president. Even his wife declared at that time that she had voted for Bani-Sadr and Khomeyni is one with his wife. However, when Bani-Sadr became president, rivalries began. You saw their acts of dishonesty during the election, but they labeled these as mere mistakes. The interior minister at that time said they were not acts of dishonesty, they were merely oversights. However, this is according to their own dictionary.

We from Mashhad sent 192 complaints about these acts of dishonesty. But through the vote rigging and dishonesty, the IRP won the election and then the corruption and rivalry began. Instead of cooperation, teamwork, and building the country, they further destroyed the country. They shouted and fought each other. And at last they succeeded in ousting Bani-Sadr so that control fell into their own hands.

Now this was also one of their accomplishments. They were a group which had no experience in this kind of work. As I have said many times before: They do not even understand their own department of law and justice; they are only half-educated. How can they be competent in departments that are concerned with political, economic, and international relations and which need expertise?

Another of their accomplishments is the Friday prayers which they have organized. See what these Friday prayers have become. They have become rallies which enable them to force people toclose businesses, attack establishments, kill and wound people, and stage riots. All these disruptive elements have emerged from these Friday prayers gatherings.

These gatherings are used to malign, to broadcast lies and accusations against groups like the Liberation Movement, the National Front, and the like. They just fabricate things at these Friday prayers. They are well organized; schemes are devised and broadcast at the Friday prayers every week. A majority of their claims and broadcasts are lies and fabrications. This is also, as I just said, one of their major accomplishments.

Another of their accomplishments is their falsehood. This should be counted as one of their major accomplishments. In reporting foreign news, they quote a newsroom as their source. They announce that at such and such place such and such happened or so and so got killed. They attribute the report to the newsroom, but in fact there is no newsroom; the news readers are fabricating the reports themselves. With regard to news on the war, they — Hashemi-Rafsanjani for instance — believe that there is really no need to inform the nation of everything or to worry the nation with such news. This is strange indeed. This is what they think administration and politics should be.

Another thing that they have done is to lawlessly plunder the oil — as other countries have also pointed out. And the dollars they get — as you well know and as I have pointed out several times before — are not spent on the nation. These dollars are earned by arms merchants, Israel, America, and countries in the East and West, and some of them are spent on international racketeering. It is also being said that our oil wells are aging. Some say that they will last for only 7 or 8 years and then we will be cursed by coming generations for squandering our oil wealth.

Here I address the oil workers and tell them that they should listen to their consciences and on no account should they produce oil. Rather, they should stop this abnormal production because the coming generations will curse them.

Iranian Guards Kill 8 Demonstrators in Zahedan

GF241150 Baghdad Television Service in Persian 0900 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] During the course of the internal struggle in the regime and the elimination of one of the lackey candidates of the antimasses Majlis, Khomeyni's criminal guards opened fire in Zahedan against a group of demonstrators, killing eight. According to reports coming from Zahedan, Khomeyni's criminal and crushing guards fired on demonstrators who were demonstrating

against the approval of one of the puppet candidates of the antimasses Majlis on Wednesday, 11 April, wounding a large number and killing eight, including a woman and her young child.

This report adds that the antimasses guards put the city under martial law after this event and arrested many people.

Briefs

Outgoing Greek Ambassador — RCC Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim today received outgoing Greek Ambassador Leonidhas Evangelidhis on the occasion of the completion of his duties. During the meeting, relations between the two countries and the means for developing these relations in ways that serve the two peoples were discussed [Text] [Baghdad INA in Arabic 1327 GMT 24 Apr 84 JN]

King Husayn Grants Medal to Soviet Group

JN241608 Amman SAWT ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 24 Apr 84 pp 1, 21

[Text] Amman — Soviet-Jordanian friendship week was concluded in Amman last night with a reception held by the USSR ambassador in Amman. The reception was attended by Makhmut Kurbanov, minister of light industry in the UzSSR and head of the USSR friendship delegation; the delegation members; Bahjat at-Talhuni, chairman of the Jordanian-Soviet Friendship Society; and a number of guests.

On behalf of His Majesty King Husayn, Bahjat at-Talhuni presented to the head of the Soviet Lazkiy group a first class medal of independence [al-istiqlal] in appreciation of the high artistic performance of the group.

Bahjat at-Talhuni delivered a speech at the reception. He stressed the depth of friendship between Jordan and the USSR, which is a friendly country, not only in words, but in practice confirmed after the June war in 1967; its support for the Arab nation against the Israeli aggression; the USSR's support to Egypt during the tripartite aggression in 1956; and through many stands.

At-Talhuni pointed out: The program of friendship that was prepared by the friendship society was not an improvised one, but a reflection of the hospitality accorded to us during our visits to the USSR. He said: We set up this program in accordance with the friendship between our two countries. He added that the USSR delegation met with His Majesty King Husayn, the Senate president, the speaker of the House of Representatives, and the prime minister, and toured the various areas of the Kingdom.

At-Talhuni asked the guest delegation to convey to the USSR peoples the greetings of the Jordanian people. He also praised the artistic level of the Lazkiy group and the efforts of the Soiet ambassador in Amman to promote friendship between the two countries.

The head of the Lazkiy group delivered a reply speech. In his own name and on behalf of the group, he thanked His Majesty King Husayn for granting the Soviet group the first class medal of independence. He also thanked the chairman and members of the Jordanian-Soviet Friendship Society and all the Jordanian people's representatives.

He said: We will leave Jordan with an excellent impression of our meetings with officials and our tours of the Jordanian areas. We will convey this impression to the Soviet peoples. He pointed out that future examples of Soviet-Jordanian friendship will take place in Uzbekistan later this year. He said: We will spare no effort for their success.

The Soviet friendship delegation will leave Amman today for the USSR after celebrating Jordanian-Soviet friendship week.

Army Chief of Staff Meets U.S. Naval Officer

JN241313 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] Amman — Staff Lieutenant General Fathi Abu Talib, chief of staff of the Jordanian Armed Forces, in his office this afternoon at the General Command Headquarters of the Jordanian Armed Forces received Admiral J.F. Addams, commander of the U.S. Middle East fleet. [as heard]

The meeting was attended by the U.S. charge d'affaires and the U.S. military attache in Amman.

Admiral Addams and his wife arrived in Amman this morning.

Jordan TV on Arab Election Meeting in Nazareth

JN241202 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 22 Apr 84

[Text] The Arab national conference held yesterday in Nazareth decided that Arab citizens in the Triangle, Galilee, and the Negev should enter the coming elections with an independent Arab list uniting all Arab political trends. The 30 speakers who addressed the Nazareth national conference yesterday emphasized the need for a single organized framework uniting all Arab citizens on whose basis they can enter the coming Knesset elections. They also emphasized that the existing political parties in Israel do not truly represent the Arab citizens and their aspirations. Arab interests can only be served by Arab members, they said.

After a 4-hour discussion in which 150 representatives from 25 Arab towns and villages participated, a preparatory committee was formed to draft a political manifesto for the independent Arab national list. The committee included members representing the various Arab towns and villages in the northern and southern parts of Palestine.

Ibrahim Nimr Husayn, mayor of Shafa 'Mar and head of the regional committee for Arab local councils who participated in the conference, said the formation of an independent Arab national list has been his wish for more than 15 years. However, he warned against any differences and called on everyone to seize this opportunity which he said, will not recur if the opponents of this idea succeed in sowing discord among Arab ranks. He also called for a comprehensive program meeting the aspirations of the Arab citizens and eliminating injustice and racial discrimination against them. Through this program, he said, the Arabs will be able to attain some of their rights, improve services in their towns and villages, raise their living standards, and put an end to the seasonal confiscation of their lands. He concluded: These aspirations should unify our ranks in order to achieve this noble objective, which is in the interest of all the Arab citizens and their cause.

The Nazareth national conference received cables of support from the various Arab towns and villages from all parts of Palestine.

Egyptian Stand on Jerusalem Issue Praised

JN231754 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1620 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] The Egyptian Government decided to sever diplomatic relations with El Salvador and Costa Rica immediately after the Jerusalem Committee passed a resolution calling on Arab and Muslim countries to sever relations with these two states and with any state that moves its embassy to occupied Jerusalem. We say the Egyptian Government's decision to take such an action, and at such great speed, leaves no room for doubt about Egypt's strong and deep affiliation with the Arab nation and its long history and civilization. Arab Egypt has been, and will continue to be, the main defender of Arab issues and the pioneer along the pan-Arab course serving the nation's noble objectives.

Regardless of all the confusion being created by Israel concerning this Egyptian move, the Egyptian attitude toward Arab issues has never changed — whether before, during, or after the conclusion of the peace treaty with Israel. To the Egyptians, the treaty provides for an end to the state of belligerency with Israel. It does not mean that Egypt should condone Israel's acts of aggression in the Arab world. Nor does it mean that Egypt should submit to Israeli willpower. It was on this basis that Egypt recalled its ambassador from Tel Aviv when Israel invaded Lebanon in 1982 Egypt linked the ambassador's return to Israel's withdrawal from the Lebanese territories, and it still maintains this stand.

If the Egyptian Government has been the first Arab state to take action, it is because Egypt has always been in the forefront of such matters, regardless of the hardships that may be caused by such a move. There is no doubt that Egypt's move has given the Jerusalem Committee's resolution to sever Arab and Islamic relations with El Salvador and Costa Rica the required significance in view of the Egyptian-Israeli links under the peace treaty. Egypt is fully aware of the dimensions of the first framework of the Camp David accords, and knows how to move freely within this framework without Israel being able to limit this freedom. It is also equally aware of the second framework of the Camp David accords, which has been frozen due to the conflict between the Egyptian concept of this framework and Israel's expansionist designs in the occupied Arab territories.

Egypt's stand deserves full appreciation on the Arab and Islamic levels, because it is a firm pan-Arab stand which considers occupied Arab Jerusalem now and in the future as being outside the zone of Israel's colonialist hegemony.

Commentary on Vatican's Position on Jerusalem

JN211829 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 21 Apr 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] In his Easter message to the world's Christians, Pope John Paul II asserted that giving Jerusalem a special international status, establishing a homeland for the Palestinians, and guaranteeing the security of the Israelis are the basic conditions for lasting peace in the Middle East. Only 1 day after the Vatican message, a spokesman for the Israeli Foreign Ministry claimed that Jerusalem has been and will continue to be the eternal capital of Israel. The Israeli spokesman was thus commenting on the Vatican position about the need to put holy places under international protection.

While this fragmentary dialogue was going on between the head of the Catholic Church and Israel, the Arab Jerusalem Committee met in Fes to adopt the appropriate measures that could help prevent the U.S. Congress from passing legislation on the transfer of the American Embassy from Tel Aviv to occupied Jerusalem, and to consider the stands that must be taken against any country that decides to transfer its embassy to occupied Jerusalem. All this clearly points out Jerusalem's distinguished and special status in regard to the Arab-Israeli conflict and the fact that this city constitutes the key to a solution for the Middle East crisis.

The awareness of this fact by the head of the Catholic Church, who announced it to the entire Christian world on the eve of the Easter holiday, is clear proof of the invalidity of the unilateral measures which Israel has taken in the holy city. This is in addition to the other proof presented by the resolutions of the UN General Assembly and Security Council. Although we are not here to discuss the basic differences between the Vatican and the Israeli Government, the position that has been taken by his holiness the pope makes us wonder about the secret behind the strong Israeli rejection that is equally against the Islamic and Christian worlds.

In view of the current abnormal international situation, Israel can, temporarily, force its position on anyone who opposes this position in all four corners of the world. We say temporarily, because under the existing equation in the area and in the world, Israel has the power to reject. But who can guarantee Israel that the Middle East equation will remain unchanged forever. If Israel bases its aggressive and expansionist strategy on the perpetuity of the existing situation in the area and the world, then we say that the logic of history rejects — and in fact contradicts — such an assessment. There is neither lasting friendship nor lasting animosity in our world. There are only lasting interests, and the interest of the Arabs and the Muslims is to continue to adhere to the Arabism of Jerusalem and the sanctity of its Christian and Islamic holy places until the city returns to the Arab fold.

The Israeli leaders' mistake lies in their belief that the wheel of history has stopped at the gateway of Israeli victories. Yet history, especially Jewish history, says the opposite. Have the Israelis asked themselves how long they can continue to deceive the world public, especially the Americans, about the facts of the situation in the area and the importance of the holy city as the key to Middle East peace? All signs in the international arena, especially in the American arena, indicate that the Israeli deception cannot continue forever. Therefore, Israel must realize this fact and stop pursuing a course that is contrary to reason, logic, and history.

Announcement Karami To Form Government Expected

Karami Said Satisfied

NC250718 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 25 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Today President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil will continue his consultations with political and parliamentary leaders on the current situation and the prospect of forming a government of national unity for salvation. Informed sources expect President al-Jumayyil to receive [former] Prime Minister Rashid Karami this morning to discuss with him the possibility of charging him with the formation of a new government. The informed sources said that at 2000 last night President al-Jumayyil contacted [former] Prime Minister Karami, who returned to Tripoli from Damascus yesterday afternoon. President al-Jumayyil told Karami that his consultations with the various sides, turned up unanimous agreement that Karami should form a government of national unity. However, will [former] Prime Minister Karami agree to form a new government? And, has the question of his designation finally been settled?

Informed sources said that the fact that President al-Jumayyil notified Karami that his consultations confirmed that Karami should head the new government signifies that the question of designation has been decided. The informed sources, however, said that although some minor problems remain, these do not affect the designation decision. These sources have quoted opposition circles as having said that opposition leaders have confirmed that the Damascus talks have officially resulted in accepting Karami to form the new government and that the Syrian side has expressed its readiness to extend every support to ensure the success of this government's ministerial program. The sources indicated, however, that Karami still has some reservations that he insists on settling before starting the process of forming a government. Karami will discuss these reservations with President Al-Jumayyil today. The sources expect the decision of designation to be issued this evening or, at the latest tomorrow morning after which the battle of forming a government will begin. Karami yesterday gave his visitors the impression that he is satisfied with the prospect of forming a government of national unity, saying that things are proceeding well.

In any case, despite this optimistic atmosphere which will result in a designation decision, there remains the battle of forming a government. Informed sources have spoken about some problems regarding representation in the government. These sources add that the opposition has no problem over who will represent it in the new government. Opposition sources confirmed this by saying that attempts to form a government have reached the phase of mentioning the names of those who will be given ministerial portfolios. The opposition sources explained that the issue of the Army and its reunification will be a question of the basis of the new government's ministerial programs. The new government will have 26 or 22 ministers and will study all the bills, decrees, and laws that have been issued with regard to the Army in cooperation with the Chamber of Deputies in order to lay the foundations for the reunification and construction of the Army in a manner that is compatible with the aspirations of all parties.

Damascus Talks Instrumental

NC250740 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 25 Apr 84

[Text] While President al-Jumayyil is continuing his consultations, Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri has continued his meetings with the national and Islamic forces. Yesterday, Birri held a series of meetings with the Amal Movement and some opposition leaders. The consultations continued late into the night. Opposition sources said that Birri and Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt had reservations about participating in the new government but that [former] Prime Minister Rashid Karami's insistence that functionaries must participate made them put themselves at the disposal of Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad. The sources pointed out that Karami has agreed to form a government in light of the talks which were held in Damascus and which resulted in his obtaining guarantees, the most important of which is an Arab guarantee for the Syrian solution to end the crisis as well as an international guarantee and the acceptance by all of the political leaders to participate in the government in the capacity of ministers of state. The sources added that among other things, the summit meeting between Presidents al-Jumayyil and al-Asad resulted in agreement to give the prime minister broad powers in the supervision of the work of the ministries and official departments.

Karami Meets Al-Jumayyil

NC251048 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 25 Apr 84

[Text] At 1045, [former] Prime Minister Rashid Karami arrived by helicopter at the Presidential Palace where he was received by President Amin al-Jumayyil. The two then immediately held a meeting to discuss, what is now common knowledge, the designation of Prime Minister Karami to form a government of national unity. As for the date of the official designation, informed sources expect this to take place tomorrow morning at the latest, if not tonight.

Further Reportage on Al-Jumayyil's Meetings

Salam Questioned on Talks

NC231310 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Excerpts] President Amin al-Jumayyil received former Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam a short while ago. Following the meeting, Salam said:

[Begin recording] Naturally, I felt that his excellency the president wanted to hold consultations, especially after his recent visit to Syria and his talks with His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad on matters of interest to the two countries. I discussed everything with the president. I would like to conclude by saying I [word indistinct] that a Lebanese party wants to pull the president to its side and that another party wants to do the same thing. Both parties are wrong. The president of the republic must be the president of Lebanon. This is what I have always asked of him — a president of all of Lebanon. This is a difficult task for

him to fulfill among all the Lebanese. I hope we will always help him to be a president of all of Lebanon so that he may reconcile all the Lebanese parties.

[Unidentified reporter] Was the president ever a president of less than all of Lebanon?

[Salam] I am looking to the future. I am talking about what I am asking from you, from every citizen, from myself, and from the president.

[Reporter] Do you believe a government of national unity will be formed soon?

[Salam] I believe that a government will be formed soon, because the absence of a government is no longer tolerable. This is also the president's personal view. Therefore, we must adopt reason and wisdom, and we must be neither too hasty nor too slow. We must be aware of the responsibilities, because they are very heavy.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct]

[Salam] I am not in a position to define the situation for you, but the president, as everyone knows, is seeking to form a government.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct]

[Salam] It is as if you are living in another world. Have you not always heard me say I am convinced that my country's interest supports my view that I can better serve the country when I am outside the government than when I am a part of it?

[Reporter] What are the qualifications you laid down for the new government and the new prime minister?

[Salam] A bit of consideration, a bit of wisdom, and a bit of flexibility in addition to firmness about Lebanon's interest. [end recording]

Al-Huss Makes Statement

NC241310 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 24 Apr 84

[24 April statement by former Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss; recorded]

[Text] Contacts and consultations were resumed this morning at the official and leadership level to implement the decisions of the Damascus summit, foremost of which is the formation of a government of national unity that will help the country through the fateful phase through which it is passing, and which will assume the responsibility of restoring security and stability as well as of achieving the desired reforms in all fields. Within this framework, President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil today resumed the consultations with political leaders he began yesterday. President al-Jumayyil received former Prime Ministers Dr Salim al-Huss, Rashid as-Sulh, and Taqi ad-Din as-Sulh. After the meeting, Dr Salim al-Huss said:

[Begin recording] As is known, the meeting was within the framework of the president's consultations on the results of the recent Damascus summit. I was briefed on the outcome of the Damascus summit talks, with respect to the security situation, the situation in the south, and the concept for the required political reforms in this phase to make Lebanon emerge from its ordeal. I expressed my views on all these affairs. I stressed the priority that should be given to the issue of the south, out of the belief that if the Lebanese can agree on one concept of the substance of the current struggle in the south and its dimensions, and on one course to oppose the Israeli occupation in the south, western Al-Biqa', and in Iqlim al-Kharrub, there will be no barrier between them and they will not disagree. The basic starting point for accord is the south. The discussion also dealt with all aspects of the security situation beginning with the responsibility toward citizens who, in all parts of Lebanon, whether in Beirut's southern suburb, the mountain, or in Beirut, are still suffering from the recent random shelling on the two sectors of Beirut. We also discussed various aspects of the political situation and the necessary agreement on political reforms to raise Lebanon out of its crisis.

[Unidentified reporter] Dr al-Huss, all these security, political, and reconciliation aspects as well as the issue of the south require an executive machinery to tackle them [words indistinct].

[Al-Huss] The subject is being seriously proposed, as is known. We hope that efforts will soon result in the formation of a government of national unity. I believe the formation of such a government is necessary at this stage so that Lebanon can overcome this serious phase that threatens its existence and entity. [End recording]

Rashid as-Sulh Describes Talks

NC241324 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] After his meeting with President Amin al-Jumayyil today, [former] Prime Minister Rashid as-Sulh made the following statement:

[Begin recording] I met with his excellency the president this morning. He briefed me on the atmosphere of the discussions that took place in Damascus last week. Our detailed discussions dealt with the atmosphere of these talks and the subjects raised. We then discussed the question of forming a new government in Lebanon on the basis that the current consultations deal with this aspect of political life. I frankly told his excellency that the public in Lebanon wants to see a government of national unity including (?representatives) of all the active forces, and that it is necessary to form this governement as soon as possible because the situation will not tolerate any further delay or postponement of a government formation.

At the same time, I discussed with his excellency the president the issue of southern Lebanon and western Al-Biqa' — the Lebanese territory occupied by the Israeli enemy. I discussed in detail with his excellency the question of the national Lebanese resistance. This resistance is a cause for pride for every Lebanese, and all of us are supposed to support, strengthen, and help it. I

proposed to his excellency that the cabinet members include several ministers from these areas so as to express Lebanon's adherence to the liberation of its land and the insistence of all Lebanese on securing the withdrawal of the Israeli occupier from these parts of Lebanon.

We discussed also the role of the Chamber of Deputies and the need to strengthen it, because the chamber is an institution that preserved legitimacy in Lebanon and did not abandon its role despite the obstacles it encountered. [End recording]

Taqi ad-Din As-Sulh Comments

NC241406 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1140 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] [Former] Prime Minister Taqi ad-Din as-Sulh met with President Amin al-Jumayyil this morning. Following the meeting, As-Sulh answered journalists' questions.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] What were the most significant points in your consultations with the president today?

[As-Sulh] Actually, we cannot call them consultations in the true sense of the word. They were a review of the situation in Lebanon and the area. The most important issues discussed were the questions of the south, the western Al-Biqa', and Iqlim al-Kharrub. We also discussed the action needed to bring about the withdrawal of the Israeli enemy's occupation forces. We also discussed the security situation, which is making gradual progress, despite some recent setbacks. It is my belief that security is being further consolidated.

We then discussed the meetings held in Damascus. We consider these meetings a sort of rectification of the negative results of the Lausanne conference. The aim of the various meetings was to achieve what was not attained at the Lausanne conference. The purpose of all these meetings is to serve the interests of Lebanon and to steer it from a state of division, deterioration, and hopelessness to a state of stable security that will permit the initiation of political action in an atmosphere of quiet and understanding. The realization of an accord, which we could not realize in Lausanne, is now being realized in Damascus during the various meetings held there.

[Reporter] Did you discuss the question of forming a government, especially given that some sources believe you might head the next government?

[As-Sulh] The formation of a government will depend on an accord. Its discussion would become possible when the issue becomes comprehensive. [sentence as heard] This is what was agreed upon during the meeting. However, we did not broach the subject of my nomination. We are always ready to serve Lebanon in any post.

[Reporter] The current consultations deal with the duties of the future government. Naturally, the formulas are not as important as the duties that the next government will undertake.

[As-Sulh] These duties are primarily the establishment of security. There could be no stable, permanent, and firm security without an accord. A government formed as a result of the accord would be able to impose stable and firm security, which the Lebanese have been cherishing and dreaming of for several years. Under such security, all the Lebanese will be able to rebuild Lebanon on foundations of love, unity, sovereignty, and dignity.

[Reporter] What are the other priorities? Security is one priority, but what are the others?

[As-Sulh] The other priorities are the building of the institutions and of Lebanon on firm and unshakeable foundations, based on accord, equality, and justice, in order to preclude fear and injustice. These are the firm priorities. [End recording]

Lebanese Forces Will Not Obstruct New Government

NC242038 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] In a statement to REUTER, Pierre al-Jumayyil said the Lebanese Forces will not obstruct the formation of the projected government of national unity. He emphasized the Phalange Party's insistence on the participation of the Lebanese Forces in the new government. In clarification of a previous statement by the Lebanese Forces spokesman that these forces are not prepared to join any new government, Pierre al-Jumayyil said: Na'um Farah was wrong when he spoke in the name of the Lebanese Forces. He does not represent these forces' stand on this issue. He added: It is the Lebanese Front that speaks in the name of the Lebanese Forces. It is known that [former] President Camille Sham'un is the chairman of the Lebanese Front and that Pierre al-Jumayyil is the deputy chairman.

Reportage on Disengagement of Forces Operation

Phalangists Procrastinating

NC240808 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0630 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Excerpts] The observers focused their attention on the security explosion yesterday, which caused a number of dead and wounded, and on the continued efforts by the Phalangist gangs and their army to impede the deployment of disengagement forces along the axes; particularly as these events drew statements from Lebanese Forces' officials, who stressed that they would not participate in any government backed by Damascus. These statements were preceded by a statement by these forces' commander, who emphasized his rejection of such a government.

A nationalist source has commented on this approach and on the political and security escalation. The source said that what took place yesterday did not surprise anybody, particularly as the nationalist forces warned more than once that the Phalangists are catching their breath after they suffered a military defeat on the axes and a political defeat which forced them to abrogate the 17 May accord and subsequently to agree to the Lebanese-Syrian

summit. In light of this, the Phalangist side is procrastinating so that matters remain undecided, in the hope that it may overcome the current stage which is not in its interests. The source added that the policy of the Phalangists and all its institutions, which are preparing for a new military operation, will harm Lebanon in general and the Christians in particular. This is a disgraceful policy known to everyone.

The source said that the ruling team has never taken the Arab choice seriously because what is taking place in the south, particularly at the hands of the so-called [commander] Antoine Lahhad with the regime's stand of supporting and covering up for him, is not compatible with the Arab choice.

All this is taking place at a time when efforts of the nationalist forces with the participation of sisterly Syria are concentrating on the work of saving Lebanon from the whirlpool of violence and fighting in which it is living. These forces have expressed their desire to contribute effectively and seriously to reaching a solution that will put an end to the bloodshed and destruction.

Problem With Deployment Solved

NC241826 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] The disengagement of forces operation was completed when observers took up positions in five posts in Beirut tonight. These posts were the cause of a problem which the Security Arrangements Committee had been tackling for the past few days. It succeeded in solving this problem today. The observers began deploying in the posts assigned to them in 'Alayh.

The security situation deteriorated this afternoon. Shells fell on the axes in Beirut, and sniper fire was exchanged. The Security Arrangements Committee held contacts that resulted in the restoration of calm and the stationing of observers.

Forces Resume Deployment

NC250856 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0827 GMT 25 Apr 84

[Text] We have just been informed that the disengagement forces' deployment has begun at the two positions of the Greek Orthodox bishopric locality and the Beirut Judiciary Detachment on Damascus Road. This deployment process is expected to end later. Thus, the disengagement forces' deployment along the capital's axes will be concluded.

The Security Arrangements Committee, which convened a short while ago, is overseeing the deployment process. This process began simultaneously with the meeting of the Security Arrangements Committee. Some positions remain on the mountain; however, the deployment process in the remaining positions is expected to end later today.

Lebanese Forces Representative Ghanim Attacked

Ghanim Unhurt

NC242016 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] According to reports tonight, fire was opened at Dr Jean Ghanim, representative of the Lebanese Forces at the Security Arrangements Committee, and his companions. Dr Ghanim escaped unhurt, although his three companions were hit. The attack took place during the disengagement of forces operation.

Two Aides Wounded

NC242124 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] West Beirut is coming under heavy sniper fire, which reaches deep into the residential quarters in the As-Sana'i' area and its environs. The sniping started after the Security Arrangements Committee's sources announced the completion of the disengagement of forces operation in the Beirut area.

During the stationing of forces operation, bursts of gunfire were directed at members of the Security Arrangements Committee and the Internal Security Forces. A member of the Internal Security Forces and two aides of Dr Jean Ghanim, the representative of the Lebanese Forces to the committee, sustained serious but not critical wounds. The three were moved to the Hotel Dieu. Staff Colonel Jean Nasif, the Army's representative to the committee, and Amal Movement representative Dr Ayyub Humayyid held immediate contacts to restore quiet to the area. The incident was denounced by everyone.

A source said the stationing of the disengagement forces in Qurs al-Mudawwar and hill No 882 will take place tomorrow.

Attempt Denounced

NC242046 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2020 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] Lawyer Na'um Farah, the official spokesman of the Lebanese Forces Command, made the following statement:

Dr Jean Ghanim, the Lebanese Forces representative to the Higher Political Security Committee and to the Security Arrangements Committee, survived an assassination attempt as he was carrying out his duty in the Primo area. At 1845 tonight bullets poured down from West Beirut on Dr Ghanim's car. Dr Ghanim miraculously escaped unhurt, but three of his companions were wounded. This incident occurred while he was supervising the deployment of the disengagement forces and the observers in the Primo area. The Lebanese Forces underline the following points regarding this attack:

1. The Lebanese Forces strongly denounce this treacherous attack against their representative, Dr Jean Ghanim, and consider that this criminal attempt aimed to assassinate the cease-fire decision.

2. The Lebanese Forces believe that this assassination attempt puts to the test the credibility of the claims by the Amal Movement and the Progressive Socialist Party that they are in control of the situation in West Beirut and the southern suburb.

3. The Lebanese Forces declare that despite this attack, they are determined to continue and to intensify their efforts to facilitate the implementation of the decisions on the cease-fire and the disengagement of forces.

Date of Al-Jumayyil's Visit to Saudi Arabia Not Set
NC241313 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] Political sources today said that President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil's visit to Saudi Arabia is ruled out this week although the idea of a Lebanese-Saudi summit has existed for some time. These sources said that no new contact took place between Lebanon and Saudi Arabia to set a date for a summit between the Lebanese president and the Saudi ruler. The sources said that a summit is possible and its date will be set after the formation of a new government, particularly as President al-Jumayyil is preoccupied at present.

Presidential Adviser Jean 'Ubayd To Go to Damascus
NC250747 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 25 Apr 84

[Text] Within the framework of the continued contacts between Beirut and Damascus and the government's information on the results of the Syrian officials' talks with the Lebanese opposition leaders, Jean 'Ubayd will leave for Damascus today for consultations with officials. Meanwhile, informed sources expect Saudi mediator Rafiq al-Hariri to arrive in Beirut today.

Israelis Close Road to South, Fire on Cars
NC241533 Beirut Domestic Service in English 1505 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Excerpts] Israeli occupation forces closed traffic on the only remaining road link between the south and the rest of the country today and opened fire on thousands of cars and trucks, which were patiently waiting for an opportunity to enter the south. In what was a massacre of tires, the Israeli authorities punctured the tires of hundreds of trucks and cars, which were later forced to move without being able to repair the damage.

Meanwhile, Israeli measures have aggravated the economic crisis in the south in an obvious attempt to bring the people of the south to their knees and to force them to collaborate with the occupation forces. Prominent figures in the south have called on the authorities to place the plight of the people under occupation before the world community.

Israeli troops have prevented Sidon fishermen from carrying on their work and have repeatedly torn their nets and broken their boats. Leading farmers in the south today condemned the obvious Israeli attempts to terminally destroy the citrus crop of the south. Citrus losses this year are estimated to be over 300 Lebanese pounds. Armed thugs collaborating with the Israeli occupation forces last night kidnapped and killed Zuhayr Fasqiyah and kidnapped Samir Hawrani from Sidon. Both men were Palestinians.

Inhabitants of Southern Town Forced To Leave
NC241821 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Excerpt] The so-called southern army of Lebanon continues its provocative measures in the Ar-Rayhan area in the south. Travelers from the south say the provocations by the so-called southern army ofLebanon aim to evict all inhabitants of the Ar-Rayhan area. They point out that 80 percent of the inhabitants were compelled to leave their homes after the campaign of arrests in Ar-Rayhan township. The body of Subhi ash-Shukr, who was detained by this army, was returned to his relatives. Reports say Ash-Shukr was killed in Lahhad's [southern army of Lebanon commander] army's barracks in Majr 'Uyun. The inhabitants of the Ar-Rayhan area number fore than 35,000, living in several villages. The travelers say Lahad's army set up a barracks in 'Aramta township housing about 50 persons. It also set up a base in Durhu 'Aramta and checkpoints on the Jabal ar-Rayhan Road.

Call for 6 May Antiwar March in Beirut
NC212000 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 21 Apr 84

[Text] Under the slogan "No to War; No to a 10th Year [of war]" a call has been made for staging a march on 6 May to set out from Al-Barbir and Al-'Adliyah and converge at the Museum. The march is to express the silent majority's outcry in protest against war. A statement signed by scores of citizens has been distributed as a preliminary response to this call. It is hoped that many citizens who are loyal to this homeland will respond to this call for the sake of proper coexistence among all the citizens.

Franjiyah Discusses Developments at News Conference
NC241354 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 1130 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] At his weekly news conference, held this morning, [former] President Sulayman Franjiyah congratulated the Lebanese in particular and the Christians of Lebanon and the Arab world on the glorious Easter feast. Franjiyah asked God to make it possible for Lebanon to celebrate next Easter as a Lebanon that has recovered its dignity, stability, and prosperity with a return to normal life.

He said: Just as the savior rose from the dead and triumphed over death, so will the new Lebanon be resurrected and triumph over the conspiracy that continues against the people of Lebanon and against their unity and freedom. [Former] President Franjiyah saluted the Lebanese national resistance and the dutiful sons of Sidon, asking aloud: When will it become incumbent on the state to aid a group that is making sacrifices through heroic

actions in order to restore the dignity and freedom of the Lebanese people?

With regard to Walid Junblatt's claim that his meeting with Zgharta [Franjiyah's residence] and Bikfayya [Pierre al-Jumayyil's residence] — the two symbols of isolation — will not alter his patriotic actions, President Franjiyah said: Even if Junblatt is correct to the effect that Zgharta has become the symbol of isolation, his meeting with Zgharta remains a better move for the sake of Lebanon's and the Arabs' interest than the meeting of al-Mukhtarah [Junblatt's residence] with Tel Aviv.

Regarding the contacts that are currently taking place in Damascus, and whether these contacts could encourage action on points agreed upon at the Lebanese-Syrian summit, Franjiyah said: The transformation of words into deeds began only a few hours after the summit. Currently, the influential leaders are in Damascus, where they met with His Exellency President al-Asad. Naturally, they will heed his advice, which will only benefit the public interest in Lebanon.

Asked about whether he will participate in a national unity government, President Franjiyah said: Naturally, I will not refuse to participate. However, I cannot make a decision at this time. I will only make a decision after being informed of the names of those who are expected to participate, and only after I am informed of the [policy] outlines that that government will pledge to implement soon.

Qulaylat on New Government, Ties With Junblatt

NC210642 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 0530 GMT 21 Apr 84

[Excerpts] Brother Ibrahim Qulaylat, leader of the Independent Nasirite Movement—Al-Murabitun, said the form of the new government does not matter to us as much as the basis and principles on which it will be established and which can achieve some of the demands of our people, who have been living through an ordeal since 1975. We in the movement have held a firm principled position since the Israeli occupation. We will not participate in any political formula under the shadow of the Zionist occupation of any Lebanese territory.

Regarding the Syrian role in Lebanon, Brother Qulaylat said in an interview with the newspaper *ASH-SHARQ* today: We see in the Syrian role the pan-Arab, fateful, and strategic option, which must not be subject, under any circumstances, to any interpretation.

Regarding the question of reconciliation with the leader of the Progressive Socialist Party, he said the suitable place for such reconciliation is in the mufti's office under the chairmanship of Mufti Hasan Khalid and Shaykh Shams ad-Din. We hope that Shaykh Muhammad Abu Shaqra and the political and popular leaderships will also attend this reconciliation. He affirmed that he has no objection to such a reconciliation, because if it is achieved, it will serve the unity of the national and Islamic position in this fateful stage.

Amal, PSP Clash in Beirut; Mufti To Intervene

NC211319 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 21 Apr 84

[Text] A Voice of Lebanon correspondent reports that the Progres-sive Socialist Party [PSP] has placed all its positions in West Beirut, particularly in the Corniche al-Mazra'ah area, in a state of high alert after pictures of Ibrahim Qulaylat appeared on walls.

A security source in West Beirut reported that the Socialists chased a black BMW carrying Al-Murabitun pictures and slogans in the Abu Shakir area. Groups of Socialist and Amal gunmen have appeared in the 'A'ishah Bakkar area in West Beirut. A security source said Socialist gunmen opened fire on a civilian car, missing it. This prompted some Amal members to intefere. As a result, the Socialists promptly brought additional reinforcements to the area. Bursts of gunfire were heard in the area at 1020 today.

At a PSP checkpoint in the Tallat al-Kayyat area, near Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan's house, some Junblatt gunmen today seized two cars that were part of a convoy of Al-Murabitun officials on their way to meet with Mufti Hasan Khalid. The gunmen took the two cars and their passengers to an unknown destination. A large crowd of the area's inhabitants assembled in front of the Socialist checkpoint protesting the kidnapping. It was reported that a delegation visited Mufti Khalid and condemned the incident. It was learned that the mufti promised to take the necessary measures through contacts he will have with the persons concerned in order to end these excesses.

VOAL Denies Clash Occurred

NC211400 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1330 GMT 21 Apr 84

[Text] Within the framework of the campaign against West Beirut to jeopardize its national and Islamic security, a report was disseminated today that a clash occurred this morning between the Al-Murabitun and the Progressive Socialist Party. This did not happen, and the citizens in West Beirut are well aware of this fact and of the aim of such rumors.

Libya Supplied Al-Murabitun With New Weapons

NC231320 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] Despite reports of conciliation between Ibrahim Qulaylat and Walid Junblatt, tension continues to prevail over the relations between the two parties' (?gunmen). This has caused the Al-Murabitun to regroup their forces in West Beirut after receiving new weapons. Our correspondent in Al-Biqa' says that tension has returned to the central Al-Biqa' between the Al-Murabitun and the Socialists. Pictures of Ibrahim Qulaylat have been seen lately in the areas of Sa'd Nayil, Ta'lbaya, Ta'mayil, and Barr Ilyas. Information received by Voice of Lebanon says that Libya has supplied the Al-Murabitun with new weapons during the past few days.

Amal Will Not Deal With Collaborators of Libya

NC241237 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] Leaders of the Amal Movement have expressed their dissatisfaction over 'Abd as-Salam Jallud's moves, particularly those aiming to reconcile Junblatt with Qulaylat. An Amal source has said that — with all respect for what Mufti Khalid, Shaykh Shams ad-Din, and the Syrians want — those who are detaining Imam as-Sadr should not be allowed any political or nonpolitical role whatsoever. The source stressed that Amal will not deal with anybody collaborating with Libya and that it is not interested in any reconciliation between Junblatt and Qulaylat. The source also warned those dealing with Libya of the consequences involved at both the national and Islamic levels. The source added that Amal will not tolerate encroachments of the socialists and their allies for very long — the day of judgement is near.

Birri Confers With Communist Party Leader

NC241803 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1730 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri received Lebanese Communist Party Secretary General George Hawi this afternoon. The discussions during the meeting focused on the outcome of the Damascus talks and the political developments, as well as on the means for enhancing the unity of the national forces. In a statement to the Voice of the Mountain at the end of the meeting, Hawi pointed out that the discussions dwelt on the latest developments following the Lebanese-Syrian summit and on the talks held in Damascus between the national leaders.

Hawi added that his views and those of Birri were identical on the need to step up the struggle for liberating the south, to support the popular uprising in the south, and to support the political solution, which is bound to enable the country to ride out its crisis. All this, Hawi continued, requires a firm position toward the fascist forces, which persist in obstructing Lebanon's unity and independence. Hawi concluded: We emphasized the need for the unity of the national stand — unity being defined as cooperation among Amal, the Progressive Socialist Party, and the other national parties and forces.

Amal Detains Communists, Confiscates Documents

NC201232 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 20 Apr 84

[Text] A large Amal Movement force raided the house of Ibrahim Hutayt, who is a member of the Communist Party, in the Ash-Shiyah area of Beirut. Information leaked to the Amal Movement indicates that Hutayt has been holding a series of secret meeting in his house with a number of Communist Party officials and has been preparing new regulations on the movements of the communists in the southern suburb. The information further indicates that as a result of the raid, eight persons were detained. Three of the detainees are: Ahmad al-Ghuli, Rafiq Shumaytilli, and Bassam Ramdan. Documents regarding the assassination of some Islamic and Druze personalities were confiscated. Other documents regarding sabotage actions in a number of Lebanese areas were also confiscated. Moreover, pictures of Al-Qadhdhafi and Jallud were found. Amal is trying to keep the subject a secret in view of the grave information it has obtained through interrogations with the communists.

'Martyr Kamal Junblatt Forces' Issue Statement

NC242032 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 2000 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] The command of the Martyr Kamal Junblatt Forces — the Popular Liberation Army — [qiyadat quwwat ash-shahid Kamal Junblatt — jaysh at-tahrir ash-sha'bi] issued the following statement:

Since the agreement on the disengagement of forces on the mountain and in Beirut was declared, the Martyr Kamal Junblatt Forces — the Popular Liberation Army — the Amal Movement, and the other national and progressive forces have been rendering every means of support to the observers and the Internal Security Forces, thus abiding by the agreement in letter and spirit. The army of the ruling family and its gangs, however, have been hindering the mission of the observers and have been procrastinating in implementing the agreement.

The Command of the Martyr Kamal Junblatt Forces, out of its commitment to pave the way for the projected political solutions, announces that, despite the treacherous practices being carried out by the Phalangist Army, it will continue to implement the resolutions of the Higher Political Security Committee. The command, however, warns the Army Command against committing any foolish action and holds it responsible for any setback that its officers might cause through their practices. The command also announces that it is responsible for protecting the citizens who are returning to their villages and houses, which were destroyed by the regime's artillery. Necessary measures have been taken to stop any attempt to attack the citizens.

Bomb Hoax at Lebanese Embassy in Athens

NC241341 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] The Lebanese Embassy in Athens today received a phone call from an unidentified caller who warned embassy staffers that there were explosives in the embassy building. The Lebanese ambassador, Shawqi ash-Shuwayri [name as heard], immediately informed the Greek authorities, and the authorities searched the premises, but found nothing. Ash-Shuwayri has contacted the Lebanese Foreign Ministry to inform it of the matter.

Al-Asad Meets Lebanese Shi'ite Leader

JN241545 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] Damascus — President Hafiz al-Asad at 1315 this afternoon received Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams ad-Din, vice president of the Lebanese Supreme Islamic Shi'ite Council.

During the meeting talks centered on the situation in the Lebanese arena, the efforts for achieving national reconciliation, and forming a government for national unity.

Lebanon's Rashid Karami Leaves Damascus 24 Apr

JN241155 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] Damascus — Rashid Karami, former Lebanese prime minister, left Damascus today at the end of a 3-day visit to Syria, during which he met with President Hafiz al-Asad.

Wahib Fadil, presidential affairs minister, saw him off from the 'Adra area.

Syrian-GDR Cooperation Committee Begins Meetings

JN241331 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] The second [as heard] session of the Syrian-GDR joint committee for economic and technical cooperation began at the Syrian Central Bank building this morning. 'Abd al-Qadir Qaddurah, deputy prime minister for economic affairs, and Guenther Kleiber, deputy chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers, cochaired the meeting in the presence of the two countries' delegations.

Qaddruah expressed his satisfaction with the development of economic cooperation between Syria and the GDR, stressing the importance of implementing the directives of President Hafiz al-Asad and the government on promoting cooperation with the socialist countries. Comrade Qaddurah touched on the current political situation in the region and the plots to which Syria is being exposed with the aim of undermining its steadfastness. He emphasized that Syria under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad will remain a steadfast citadel against all forms of imperialist and Zionist plotting, and will continue to lead Arab struggle and score victories, the latest of which was the toppling of the agreement of submission imposed on the Lebanese people by Israel and its ally, the United States.

Kleiber stressed that according to the directives of Chairman Erich Honecker, his country is eager to bolster and promote cooperation with Syria. He expressed the GDR's support for Syria under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad in its just and honorable struggle to foil all the imperialist and Zionist expansionist schemes in the region.

PFLP-GC Official Praises Syria, Al-Asad

JN211631 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 21 Apr 84

[Text] Tripoli — Abu 'Arab, member of the PFLP-GC Central Committee, has praised Syria's steadfast positions under Struggler President Hafiz al-Asad. In a speech he delivered in the Libyan city of Misratah on the anniversary of the establishment of the front, Abu 'Arab said: At this time, we do not find any side except the steadfast Syria of Al-Asad to support the Palestinian revolution in defeating the U.S., Zionist, and reactionary plans. He also condemned the treacherous trend of Yasir 'Arafat and his followers.

TISHRIN: U.S. Accusations Prelude to Israeli Aggression

JN241839 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1800 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] The Syrian newspaper *TISHRIN* said today that the U.S. accusations that Syria is a center for international terrorism are in fact a prelude to launching a large-scale military aggression against Syria after it succeeded in keeping the United States away from Lebanon and in canceling Israel's role in that country. *TISHRIN* said that the U.S. accusations are basically meant to urge Israel to launch a new attack against Syria with the aim of saving the abortive U.S. solution in Lebanon.

Concern About Lebanese Unity Stressed

JN211542 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 21 Apr 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Following the successful meeting between President Hafiz al-Asad and Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil, it is natural for the sides and forces whose interests were harmed to try to affect the positive results reached, or to try to hamper the implementation of the steps that will guarantee the Lebanese a government of national unity based on national accord among all Lebanese. This will achieve security and peace for the Lebanese and enable Lebanon to reconstruct itself. It is natural for those who bet on the United States and Israel and for those who benefit from the civil war and the continued dispute to obstruct any progress toward peace, security, and accord to prove that the Lebanese national option will lead neither to peace nor to stability and reconstruction, and to guarantee that they continue to benefit from the Lebanese people's disaster.

Despite what has been announced in Damascus and Beirut about the talks held with President Hafiz al-Asad, President Amin al-Jumayyil did not depart from the broad outlines and principles — and this is very natural. Both those who were harmed and the enemies of Lebanon and Syria have begun to announce details and names with the purpose of arousing disputes and enmity among people and raising premature and controversial questions to obstruct the efforts that the Lebanese Government is exerting with the various parties to get all Lebanese to cooperate in the march of accord, security, and construction.

Efforts of the harmed sides and the enemies of Lebanon and Syria — including the U.S. imperialists and the Israelis — hint that what they call the Syrian option, which is in fact a Lebanese national option, will not lead to peace, accord, and reconstruction, and that it is an abortive option. These attempts will be doomed to failure just as the U.S. and Israeli options were doomed to failure in Lebanon. This is because the Lebanese option of cooperating with Syria is a nationalist one that emerges from Lebanese nationalist interests and the vital interests of the Lebanese people. It is based on the joint interests, the joint destiny, and the factors of history, geography, culture, kinship, and affiliation. In light of this, that option will succeed and will be supported by all Lebanese nationalists.

Lebanon's interest lies in standing on the side of Syria and the Arabs against Lebanon's enemies, and not in standing on the side of Lebanon's enemies against the Lebanese national interests, Syria, and the Arabs. Betting on the U.S. and Israeli options in Lebanon has failed because of the U.S. and Israeli practices and because of the insurmountable contradiction that exists between Lebanese national interests and the interests of U.S. imperialism and Israel. The U.S. and Israeli options in Lebanon will never succeed.

Syria has repeatedly asserted it has no ambitions in Lebanon, and long experience has proven there is no contradition between the Syrian national and pan-Arab interests on one hand and the Lebanese national interests on the other. Experience has also proven that the fraternal Lebanese people have only found support from Syria during the crises and difficulties through which they have passed. The psychological warfare which began after the meeting that took place between President Hafiz al-Asad and President Amin al-Jumayyil will never be able to change the reality that life itself has imposed and experience has proven.

Syria is now concerned about the Lebanon's unity — land and people — and about Lebanon's independence, sovereignty, and role both in the Arab homeland and in the world. Syria considers Lebanon's independence, strength, unity, and Arab and international activitiy as a Syrian and Arab strength. Proceeding from the principle of joint interests, joint destiny, Arab affiliation, and ties of kinship, history, and geography, Syria will continue to use all of its capability to support fraternal Lebanon and its people, and will continue to extend every possible assistance so that Lebanon can reemerge unified, free, effective both in its own environment and in the world, and able to enjoy peace and prosperity.

Syria has never tried to be a trustee over Lebanon. On the contrary, Syria has always tried to safeguard Lebanon's unity and institutions as well as the Lebanese people's independence, freedom, and sovereignty, and their right to organize and arrange their own affairs. At the same time, Syria has asserted that it will reject and resist any effort to turn Lebanon into a U.S. protectorate, an Israeli colony, or a base of conspiracy and aggression against Syria and the Arabs.

Syria's Constructive Role in Lebanon Praised

JN231430 Damacus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Station commentary]

[Text]Gentlemen, *TISHRIN*, in commenting on Syria's firm and principled stand on Lebanese national reconciliation says: The success of the Syrian-Lebanese summit in reaching an agreement on the principles and bases that push the course of the Lebanese national reconciliation forward, through agreeing on forming a Lebanese Government of national unity that implements what has been agreed on in Lausanne, constitutes a new annoyance for the Israeli enemy. The Israelis have discovered that all their dreams have vanished and the gains they imagined they had obtained through invading Lebanon — an invasion that ended by the U.S. Administration's imposition of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement on Lebanon — were only a mirage. The Israelis were more disappointed by the fact that the Lebanese people, excluding a minority of agents, have discovered that wagering on the Israelis or adhering to the U.S. option proved to be a failure. This is because such wagering and adhering achieve only Israeli ambitions toward dominating Lebanon and U.S. dreams of reimposing hegemony on the entire region.

If such a discovery by the Lebanese people has urged them to re-adhere to the Arab option — in particular the Syrian option that has proved its credibility — it has, at the same time, intensified the hatred of both the Israelis and the Americans against Syria and the Lebanese nationalist forces, particularly since Syria did not cliam that it could achieve miracles. It only presented its conceptualization of the aspired solution, which basically depends on the Lebanese people's will and their desire to establish a new homeland that is full of love, and enjoys independence and sovereignty within its Arab surroundings.

Syria said that the 17 May agreement encroaches upon Lebanese sovereignty and threatens Syrian security. Accordingly, it considered the abrogation of this agreement a strategic demand. Syria also said that preventing Lebanon from being partitioned into mini-states constitutes one of its strategic objectives. Furthermore, Syria said that the achievement of the Lebanese national reconciliation constitutes an approach toward building and a new Lebanon can only continue to exist by the existence of its two wings. Syria also said frankly that it cannot act on behalf of the Lebanese people in searching for a formula to a new Lebanon. It emphasized that the only thing it can do is to help in preparing the appropriate atmosphere to enable the Lebanese people to hold a dialogue that defines the basis of the future. Stemming from this point, Syria helped in the convocation of the Geneva conference which determined Lebanon's identity, and later worked for ensuring the appropriate circumstances to hold the Lausanne conference, which drew up the basis for the future move. Then, the Damascus summit was held to give another push to the Lebanese people to achieve the national reconciliation that abrogates the Israeli role and ends wagering on the U.S. role.

Because Syria has been behind all this, the U.S. Administration concentrated on considering Damascus a center of terrorism, and Israel repeated its threats against Syria by accusing it of encouraging the Palestinians to pursue their attacks inside the occupied

Arab territories. Certainly, these threats will not discourage Syria from continuing to play its role in achieving the Lebanese national reconciliation and finding Lebanon's new formula.

AL-BA'TH Reviews Effect of Syrian-Lebanese Summit

JN241552 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen: Regarding the situation in Lebanon, the newspaper *AL-BA'TH* says: Many signs indicate that the situation in the Lebanese arena is proceeding quickly toward detente, and that the obstacles that prevented Lebanon from achieving a stable security situation and from moving into the stage of rebuilding and liberation, have been surmounted after the recent Lebanese-Syrian summit. The door is now wide open for a new Lebanese future stamped with the values the Lebanese people's will and their effective nationalist forces have entrenched throughout the past long years.

In light of this, we can view the recent meeting held in Damascus between President Hafiz al-Asad and Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil, and the meetings following in the past 2 days with the Lebanese nationalist leaders, as a decisive course which arranged the Lebanese equation on correct and sound bases to save Lebanon from the chronic whirlpool that has affected it; and put forth the various solutions that will enable the fraternal country to be rebuilt and to confront the Zionist invasion of southern Lebanon.

The special historical relationship between the two fraternal countries necessitates that Damascus should spare no effort to serve Lebanon and help it confront the difficult circumstances. This relationship, which took its proper course in the wake of the abrogation of the 17 May agreement, and after the collapse of the wagering on the United States to achieve a settlement of the Lebanese crisis, has made Syria a supporter for all the Lebanese sects, groups, and forces which believe in independent and free Lebanon within its Arab framework and pan-Arab course; has foiled the formula of the victor and vanquished; and has shown the Lebanese Government its correct options which are about to translate all the steps Lebanon has achieved on the road to accord and national reconciliation into great achievements through which Lebanon will restore its health and begin the march of construction and liberation.

The efforts being exerted in Damascus these days under the auspices of Struggler President Hafiz al-Asad, and with the participation of the Lebanese nationalist forces, aim at strengthening the confidence among all Lebanese parties to achieve national accord in a manner necessitated by the dangers against Lebanon, the formation of a national unity government, moving fraternal Lebanon into the stage of rebuilding, liberating the Lebanese territories from the Israeli invaders, and surmounting the obstacles to these efforts.

Syria, which seeks to save Lebanon from the whirlpool of dangers, will not allow any force to turn the wheel back or return Lebanon to the situation of fratricide, fighting, and bloodshed, because Lebanon's interests are part of Syria's and its security part of Syria's, as it has become clear to everyone.

AL-BA'TH on Lebanon's Unity, People's Wishes

JN250726 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 25 Apr 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "We Will Not Tolerate Encroachment on the Lebanese People's Wishes," *AL-BA'TH* says: Syria has promised the fraternal Lebanese people to be at their side in order to protect their unity and maintain their national cohesion. This promise represents an objective of Arab Syria's comprehensive pan-Arab strategy. Due to the fact that the efforts Damascus has exerted to achieve Lebanese national accord are in harmony with the Lebanese people's aspirations for stability and security, Damascus will not allow anyone to encroach on the Lebanese people's wishes or involve Lebanon in the trap of the joint Zionist-U.S. strategy. Because Syria seeks to liberate southern Lebanon, the Golan Heights, and the usurped Palestinian soil, it also believes that the Lebanese people's unity must be a support for Syria's comprehensive objective. This will make Syria more determined to push the march of the Lebanese accord forward and remove all obstacles which keep Lebanon bleeding so that the aggressors can easily achieve their objectives against the Arab nation's pan-Arab security. This steadfast country has managed to confront all plots against its march. Therefore, it will not be tolerant of those who attempt to keep the Syrian flank in Lebanon a bleeding wound that would pave the way for the perpetrators of the Zionist-U.S. plot to affect Syria's security or penetrate any part of the Arab world.

AL-BA'TH adds: What is required is clear and needs no probing in the depths of politics. The Lebanese people need security and tranquility, southern Lebanon needs collective efforts to be liberated, and Lebanon's independence needs protection. Thus, Syria believes that all these demands are basically the responsibility of the Lebanese. Moreover, Syria will spare no effort or force to safeguard the Lebanese people's wishes for unity, security, and national independence. If those who have bad intentions toward Lebanon are confident of gaining Israel's support, then they must realize Lebanon is part of the large Arab world, and Syria which is confronting Israel's ambitions and preparing for depriving the U.S. strategy of its pillars in our Arab east, will not forgive those who seek to divert Syria from its comprehensive pan-Arab task, through subjugating Lebanon to crises, fragmentation, and occupation.

The leader of this country's march, Struggler President Hafiz al-Asad, has stressed more than once that Syria will not submit to blackmail and threats, and that it will offer to Lebanon more than what the Lebanese themselves expect. Moreover, Syria will be concerned about Lebanese security in the same way it is concerned about itself and its own security.

AL-BA'TH concludes: Proceeding from this, Leader al-Asad's efforts will not stop to restore Lebanon's health, liberate southern Lebanon from the Zionist occupation, and strengthen the Leba-

nese' pan-Arab dignity to stand in the one Arab trench against all the challenges to Arabism and its land.

Vice President Khaddam Arrives in Athens

For Athens reportage on the visit to Greece by Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and his talks with Greek President Konstandinos Karamanlis, Foreign Minister Ioannis Kharalambopoulos, and other officials, see the Greece section of the 25 April Western Europe *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

Shamir Statement on Syria, Egypt, Lebanon

JN241727 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has said that Israel is concerned over the recent Syrian statements that the Middle East region is about to explode. He added that there is a good chance that nothing will happen in the near future.

Shamir also denied that Israel would carry out any military operation against Syria, and said that he is not concerned over the situation on the ground because he is fully aware of that situation. He added that Israel does not see any Syrian preparations for war on the ground. He also said that the continuing Syrian statements about the increasing danger of an outbreak of a war will cause concern. He added that he sees no reason for publishing such statements.

The prime minister also affirmed that in light of past experiences the IDF should be on full alert. Shamir made these statements during an interview with REUTER. He also touched on Egyptian- Israeli relations, and ruled out any possibility that Egypt would fight at the side of Syria if a war broke out between Syria and Israel. He added that the recent statements which were issued in Cairo on the freeze in the Egyptian-Israeli peace march will not improve relations between the two countries. He expressed Israel's desire to develop full relations with Egypt that will give full meaning to the Egyptian-Israeli peace agreement.

Asked whether the election year in Israel and the United States has stopped peace efforts in the Middle East, Shamir said: It is necessary for the region to experience a long period of stability in order that we can create an atmosphere of confidence in the region. Regarding the situation in southern Lebanon, he said: Israel has entrusted some IDF security missions to the southern army of Lebanon, which is now responsible for maintaining security in large areas. He also expressed his hope that the southern army of Lebanon will be able in the near future to solve security problems in this area.

Levi: Israel 'Not Interested in Conflagration'

TA241309 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1251 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister David Levi has said Israel is not interested in a conflagration with Syria. However, David Levi emphasized that Israel was on guard and was keeping an alert eye on what was occurring. David Levi was speaking with our correspondent in the north Menahem Horowitz.

IDF Officer Denies Tension on Syrian Contact Line

TA240943 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 24 Apr 84 pp 1, 11

[Report by Shefi Gabay, 'Imanu'el Rosen, and Avi Meller]

[Excerpt] A senior IDF officer has told *MA'ARIV*: "The numerous reports of tension and troop concentrations along the Israeli-Syrian contact line in Lebanon are the result of unfounded blabbering and scribblings by all kinds of people whose motives escape me."

IDF officers are furious at what they termed as inaccurate reports and have flatly denied them.

Military sources have also denied reports on the eve of the holiday [Sunday, 22 April] of an IDF withdrawal from Sidon and stated that our deployment in that city has not changed.

Labor Party Calls on Government To Dispel Tension

TA241511 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] The Labor Party has called upon the government to do all it can to dispel the tension with the Syrians and refrain from statements that would increase the tension. In an announcement issued this afternoon, the Labor Party expresses its trust in the defense establishment's announcement that there are no grounds for accusations that Israel intends to attack Syria.

USSR Activities in Middle East Increasing

JN221622 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1435 GMT 22 Apr 84

["Observation" by Sadoq Ben Me'ir]

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen, since the U.S. Marines withdrew from Beirut, the USSR has been exerting efforts to fill the alleged gap that was created by the U.S. step. The Soviet activity is not confined to Lebanon, but has reached various Arab states. Once again, this activity was not confined to USSR officials' visits to these states but was accompanied by various statements and warnings, as if Israel plans to attack Syria. There were reports about a visit of a few days that Geydar Aliyev, USSR first deputy foreign minister, paid to Damascus. Karen Brutents, deputy chairman of the CPSU Central Committee's international department, paid a 6-day visit to Syria. Other Soviet officials visited Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, and Lebanon. Press reports also touched on the Russians' attempts to conclude weapons deals with some of these states, in addition to their attempts to impose a large-scale hegemony.

During these visits, the Soviet officials made exciting statements regarding alleged Israeli military concentrations against Syria. These Soviet officials are aware of the fact that their warnings of Israeli concentrations and of Israel's readiness to attack Syria are baseless. This can be understood through Israel's repeated denials of these actions through statements made by Israel's prime minister, who confirmed yesterday that Israel is not reinforcing its forces at the borders with Syria and that it is not planning to attack Syria. Moreover, there are no unusual Israeli activities, whether at the cease-fire line opposite the Syrian forces in Lebanon or at the Golan front.

International observers in the Golan affirmed that there is no unusual change at the front by either Israel or Syria. The Soviet warnings to Israel make us recall the false Soviet warnings before the 6-day war. In these warnings, the Soviets claimed that Israel

mobilized military troops at the Syrian borders. Despite the fact that Israel, the UN observers, and the Egyptian military commanders officially denied the Soviet claims at that time, some were deceived by these claims and the known incident took place.

If the Soviets have proved anything in the past or present, it is that their major objective is to spread instability, continue fishing in muddy waters, and keep the state of no peace and no war in the region. For the Soviets, the end justifies every means. If the objective of the Syrians' involvement with the Soviets in this fabricated uproar is to conceal the power struggle in Syria, then they have opted for the worst means to achieve this end.

Press on Proposal for Separation of Forces
TA250812 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0430 GMT 25 Apr 84

[From the review of morning press editorials

[Text] *THE JERUSALEM POST* writes that Defense Minister Moshe Arens has not yet received anything that could be construed as a sympathetic response from Damascus to his constructive proposal regarding a separation of forces agreement with Syria in the Al-Biqa' valley in Lebanon. In the absence of such a response, Syria's continued insistence on engaging in a one-sided war of nerves with Israel can only be termed extremely hazardous, requiring keen alertness on Israel's part.

'AL HAMISHMAR writes that an all-out IDF withdrawal from Lebanon is desired in every way, and to repeat the reasons for this is quite superfluous. However, until such a withdrawal takes place — a withdrawal which the Shamir government has promised but not carried out — there is room for a separation of forces between the IDF and the Syrian Army. This would alleviate the tension and prevent chance incidents. Separation of forces agreements have proven themselves in the past, for instance with Egypt. They have led to a calming of the situation, and even served as a preliminary stage for obtaining a more comprehensive arrangement.

Given the atmosphere of suspicion that now prevails in our part of the world, reassuring delcarations are of little use. Only actions can mitigate the tension, actions that repel the danger of confrontation, even if this tension is staged for propaganda purposes by one of the sides.

Red Cross Visits Israeli Prisoners in Syria
TA250827 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 25 Apr 84 p 1

[Report by Sari Robert]

[Text] Last week, representatives of the International Red Cross [IRC] visited the Israeli prisoners in Syria. The visit was made on 18 April. This has been reported in an IRC announcement. The representatives brought letters from the families and took letters for transfer to Israel.

Ben-Elisar on Egyptian 'Intervention' in Elections
TA241627 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1505 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] Egypt is taking advantage of every opportunity to lower its profile in relations with Israel. This remarks was made by MK Eliyahu Ben-Elisar, Israel's first ambassador to Cairo. Ben-Elisar was speaking to the members of the Jerusalem Economic Club and our correspondent Hani Bar-Yosef:

[Begin recording] [Ben-Elisar] Peace between us and the Egyptians does indeed exist. It continues to exist; and I do not see any change in this Egyptian policy on the horizon, a policy which is meant for and aimed at maintaining peace with Israel. But I certainly do see continuous Egyptian attempts to take advantage of every occasion, even the most minor one, the smallest one, to lower the profile of the relations between the two countries.

[Bar-Yosef] Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee Chairman MK Eliyahu Ben-Elisar devoted most of his speech to the Jerusalem Economic Club today to the relations between Israel and Egypt, as they are being manifested recently. Referring to remarks by Butrus Ghali, who said today there would be no change in the relations between Israel and Egypt until rule here in Israle was changed, MK Ben-Elisar said:

[Ben-Elisar] It is inconceivable. Can we imagine Israelis intervening in any way whatsoever in the election due to be held in Egypt? How is it possible that Egypt should intervene in the upcoming election in Israel? Are we making comments about the candidates for the election in Egypt, who appears on the list or lists, who does not appear on the lists there? We would not permit ourselves to do such a thing. [end recording]

Egyptian Consulate in Elat Operating Normally
TA240949 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 24 Apr 84 p 2

[Report by Yehudit Silverstein, Refa'el Mann, and Shefi Gabay]

[Excerpt] "The departure of the Egyptian consul in Elat, Hasan 'Isa, and the retrieval of the sunken yacht in the Gulf of Elat, opposite (Ra's al-Burqa) in the Sinai Peninsula, are totally unrelated. The consul's visit to Egypt was planned a long time ago," (Kamal al-Bakri), the deputy consul in Elat, told *MA'ARIV*. According to him, the consul will soon return to Elat and will remain in his post for approximately 2 years.

The deputy consul emphasized that the reports carried by the media alleging that the consulate had been closed were totally unfounded. "We are working as usual and we have been working hard in the last few days to cope with the large demands for permits to visit Egypt. Except for Fridays, Saturdays, and holidays the consulate is open and operating normally," the deputy consul noted. Foreign Ministry officials in Jerusalem last night noted that the Egyptian Consulate in Elat is open to the public and continues to extend consular services. The Foreign Ministry was not notified of an Egyptian intention to close down the consulate or to change its staff.

Mustafa Khalil on Egyptian-Israeli Relations

TA241625 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1505 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Report on interview with Egyptian Vice President Mustafa Khalil by Gil Ronen; date and place not given — recorded]

[Text] [Ronen] At the beginning of the talk with Mustafa Khalil, I asked him how he regarded the relations between Israel and Egypt now, 5 years after the agreement and 2 years since Israel's withdrawal from Sinai.

[Begin Khalil recording — in English] Yes, I can say that it has been a very important, you know, achievement, the peace between Egypt and Israel, and I think that achievement is worth the effort that has been done to achieve it. In the meantime...

[Ronen, interrupting] The agreement between Israel and Egypt was a very important achievement, an achievement that was worth the effort invested in it. In the meantime, we hope the relations between Egypt and Israel will improve and reach the level we are all hoping for.

Is Egypt still interested in peace, as it was during As-Sadat's time, Mustafa Khalil was asked, and he replied:

[Begin Khalil recording — in English] Yes, you know what you might be saying about, or describing the peace as cold peace, or so on. I don't think that description is the right thing to say about the peace between Egypt and Israel. Peace between Egypt and Israel is here to stay, and I hope that...

[Ronen, interrupting] Yes, perhaps you describe the peace as a cold one. I do not think that is the correct description of the peace between Egypt and Israel. Peace between us is alive and well, it is something permament, and I hope the fear and doubt, which does not exist in Egypt, also does not exist in Israel. And, on another issue — the fact that he and approximately 20 other people, some of whom were considered to be close to As-Sadat, were not included in their party's list in the upcoming election — we asked if there was any connection between his dismissal and his link with Anwar as-Sadat and the peace agreement.

[Begin Khalil recording — in English] It has nothing to do with the foreign policy, because, in the meantime, Butrus Ghali and Kamal Hasan 'Ali are not included in the list.

[Ronen] No, it has no connection with foreign relations, Khalil said. Butrus Ghali and Kamal Hasan 'Ali are also not included in the list.

It is a fact that I am the only one in the list of those dismissed who had any connection whatsoever with the agreement.

This is connected with the fact that I have no free time to deal with state affairs. I was not surprised by the decision, Khalil said, and I was certainly not opposed to it. And, on the last issue, that of the tension between Israel and Syria, Khalil said: We are keeping a close watch on the situation on both sides and we believe and hope that there will not be any deterioration.

'AL HAMISHMAR Editorial on Peace With Egypt

TA240739 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0430 GMT 24 Apr 84

[From the review of morning press editorials]

[Text] *'AL HAMISHMAR* says that the fading peace with Egypt may turn into the greatest missed opportunity in Israel's history. Daring initiatives like those of As-Sadat's do not happen in our area very often. Even if we cannot justify Egypt's protest steps, such as not returning its ambassador to Tel Aviv, it must be realized that relations will not be improved by declarations alone. Only the complete fulfillment of the Camp David accords and the broadening of the political initiative to include Jordan and the Palestinians might supply the peace treaty with oxygen.

Peace Now Delegation Invited to Egypt for Talks

TA241412 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] It has been reported that a delegation from the Peace Now movement is to go to Cairo today. Its members will spend 6 days there at the invitation of the Government of Egypt. They will meet with Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali, Minister Butrus Ghali, and with the president's adviser, Usamah al-Baz.

Commentary on Death of Bus Hijackers

TA241302 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 24 Apr 84 p 11

[Eytan Haber commentary: "Somebody Will Yet Receive the Prize for Idiocy"]

[Text] A furious storm has been raging outside the borders of the State of Israel, a storm that might tarnish the already tarnished reputation of the Israeli state. The reverberations of this storm have been reaching Israel piecemeal and, given the current public mood, they may only evoke a shrug. Well then, so what? The top political, security, and military officials are hiding in the sand trenches and waiting for the storm to blow over, but the storm is not letting up.

At stake is the affair of the two terrorists who meet their death in very mysterious circumstances at the end of the IDF's rescue operation of the No. 300 hijacked bus. After the rescue operation, several press photographers took pictures of one or two terrorists walking on their own feet: fit, healthy, and scared. Later, the IDF spokesman announced their death "on their way to the hospital." Incidentally, the IDF spokesman did not lie in his announcement, he merely did not tell the whole truth. The truth, apparently, was too embarrassing. Now, officials from the prime minister on down "are going out of their minds" trying to figure out how to get out of this unfortunate affair; how to get out of it rather than into it.

One must be a saint or be of a particularly delicate disposition to believe that in war — and the actions against the terrorists were tactics of war — one does not act as in war. On the issue of harming terrorists, the IDF has always taken pains to publicize

stories that soldiers had been wounded because they had not wanted to harm people raising their arms in surrender. Legends have always made their way through the grapevine about soldiers being shot behind bedouin women feeding their babies, but stories about "extraordinary incidents" were given limited coverage. There have been extraordinary incidents in the past and they will probably also recur in the future. In his diaries, David Ben-Gurion mentions a few such incidents that ended without justice ever having been done. Here and there in his memoirs there are stories that end in "and his body was dumped in the wadi." Well then, such events have also been known to happen in the past.

There has, however, never been a case — so it seems to me — when after it became known that the victims had been photographed before their deaths, an attempt would be made at all costs to cover up the action later. Somebody deserves a special prize for this: the prize for idiocy.

The first claim will be raised against the media: Who allowed them to reach the scene? Who allowed them to take pictures? Why were they allowed? With all due respect, this would be a foolish claim. First of all in 1984, in the Middle East and in Israel, it is hard to avoid the media. Israel is under a gigantic media microscope and every military action should simply take this fact into consideration. Second, given the current atmosphere one would have to be a complete idiot to believe that such a story would not leak out. In an atmosphere lacking a national consensus and where "extraordinary incidents" in every field have become routine there is virtually no chance of not finding somebody — even if only one person — to leak the story. In such an event there may be no pictures but there may still be a story. So, what would be the point of such a claim?

The second claim will be leveled at the correspondents and Knesset members who took pains to publicize the story. Of course, they are not patriotic. Why do they not think about Israel's reputation? And how come they forget that Israeli prisoners are being held by the terrorist organizations?

Nonsense, utter nonsense.

The claim must be directed only at those who gave the order, at each and every level, at each and every post. How come he did not think about the good name (good? not recently) of the State of Israel. How come he did not know that Israeli prisoners are currently being held by the terrorist organizations? This man, after all, deserves the prize for idiocy for 1984. I shudder at the thought that this is how matters are being contemplated and decisions are being made in the State of Israel. Good Lord, these are, after all, matters of life and death.

There is also an answer to this: Something has happened in the last few years. Simply, in the past — at least in many cases — there was no cover up of "extraordinary incidents." At the time, Ben-Gurion appointed Ya'aqov Riftin — a member of Kibbutz 'En Shemer and a member of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee — to check all the information about "extraordinary incidents" and the latter was ordered "to establish the truth and to bring those responsible to trial." Ben-Gurion believed that "these incidents, if they really took place, constitute a political and moral threat and the most severe measure should be taken to uproot them." So, what is different today? Contrary to the past, the leaders of the State of Israel currently cover up "extraordinary incidents" and are at this very moment looking for every possible way to evade justice. Something terrible has happened to Israel's moral standards in the last few years. Along with the devaluation of our money we have also lost other values.

Officials on Free Trade Zone Agreement With U.S.

TA230610 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] Israeli officials in Washington have denied that an agreement on a free trade zone between Israel and the United States might be signed by the end of this month, as was reported by *NEWSWEEK* yesterday.

The officials told our correspondent in Washington, Razi Barqay, that many problems still remain to be solved, and months will pass before they are settled and an agreement can be signed. The reference is primarily to the period of grace to be accorded to Israel until its products can enter into competition with U.S. products, and there will also be a need for legislation in the United States in order to establish such a free trade zone.

The next round of talks on this issue will take place in Jerusalem in the middle of next month.

Arms Sales to Nicaraguan Rebels Denied

TA241615 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] Israel has denied selling arms to Nicaraguan rebels. The denial was issued by the Foreign Ministry spokesman, who described the reports on the sale of arms as ridiculous and absolutely groundless, adding that this is a contemptuous attempt to harm Israel's image and standing in the international arena.

New Coordinator in Territories Takes Office

TA241805 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] The new coordinator of the government's activities in the territories, Shmu'el Goren, took office today and met with general staff officers and office personnel. Within the next few days he will visit the region of Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza.

Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that at the first stage, the new coordinator will have to deal with the appointment of a head of the Civilian Administration in Judaea and Samaria and the question of the structure of the Civilian Administration and military government.

He will also have to find mayors to replace the army officers now heading several municipalities in the territories.

Bethlehem Mayor Frayj Returns From 2-Month Tour

TA221453 Tel Aviv ITIM In Hebrew 1410 GMT 22 Apr 84

[Text] Jericho, 22 Apr (ITIM) — Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj returned this morning from a 2-month tour of Europe, Australia, and the United States. He returned via Jordan, and a large group of Bethlehem inhabitants waited for him near the Allenby Bridge and greeted him enthusiastically.

In the course of his overseas tour, the Bethlehem mayor met with the foreign ministers of Britain, France, Australia, and the United States. He discussed with them matters pertaining to Judaea and Samaria, and in their conversations he repeated his views that it necessary to obtain peace through mutual understanding rather than through violent, armed struggle. He pointed out that the PLO and Israel must recognize each other and hold a dialogue.

Returning today, Ilyas Frayj expressed surprise at the fact that the Israeli Embassy in London had lodged a protest with the British Foreign Office for having extended an official invitation to him.

The ITIM correspondent in Judaea and Samaria notes that Ilyas Frayj asked the foreign ministers whom he met to have their countries aid the Judaea and Samaria municipalities and local councils. Britain and Australia promised to extend such aid.

Interview on Moderation, Terrorism

TA231938 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Interview in English with Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj by Gil Sadan after his return from an overseas tour on 22 April; in his office — videotaped]

[Text] [Sadan] Do you too blame the Americans for the lack of progress in the Middle East?

[Frayj] I really do not blame only the Americans. I blame the present government in Israel which is really not moving towards a real and just and fair peaceful resolution of this crisis.

[Sadan] In the last 2 weeks we had quite terrible terror attacks here in the area. Don't you think there is a trend of radicalization rather than moderation?

[Frayj] I don't think so. I believe that moderation in the West Bank is gaining the upper hand and there is a consensus in the West Bank — and this Israel must understand — which wants a real peace agreement with Israel based on mutual recognition, based on granting the Palestinians their right for self-determination, and based on no settlements, because the settlements are driving the Arabs into craziness.

[Sadan] But yet there were hardly any Palestinian moderate leaders who condemned the terror attacks. Would you condemn them?

[Frayj] I condemn all acts of violence, aggression and repression.

[Sadan] Including those two terror attacks?

[Frayj] Including all attacks of violence, including these two attacks, because these two attacks are only playing into the hands of the extremes in Israel, and they will secure more seats in the Knesset for the extremists in Israel. So the Arabs should not now try to have and encourage the extremists to win the elections in Israel. It will be against our interests.

[Sadan] Do you foresee any political movement before the elections in Israel and in America?

[Frayj] For me the Israeli elections are more important and decisive. The American elections are a foregone conclusion, and the Americans are a superpower, their policy is internationally well known. But for Israel, which is a small country, its next elections are going to be of historical importance, whether they will lead to peace or whether they will freeze the present deadlock.

Jordan 'Would Prefer' Alignment Government

TA250822 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 25 Apr 84 p 11

[Report by Amnon Raz]

[Text] "Jordan would prefer to conduct negotiations over the future of the conquered territories with an Alignment government rather than with the Likud government."

This was stated by Jordanian Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat to members of the West Bank organization of chambers of commerce. The delegation returned a few days ago from a congress of Arab chambers of commerce held in Amman last week.

The Jordanian prime minister expressed his hope that the Alignment would win the upcoming election. However, he does not think that negotiations with an Alignment government would be easier.

He said the question of Jerusalem and a solution to the Palestinian problem were much more complicated than the Sinai question. If the negotiations with Egypt met with many difficulties, negotiations over the future of the West Bank would be even more difficult.

The delegation also met with King Husayn. He promised them that representatives of Jordan and the PLO were in the oil principalities to persuade them to contribute their share to financing a protection fund for land belonging to West Bank inhabitants. Until the funds arrive, Jordan will allocate a special budget for the territories.

Jordanian Television Trying To Influence Election
TA240940 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
24 Apr 84 p 3

[Text] Jordanian television has apparently decided to try to influence the election process in Israel.

In every newscast in the last few days, Jordanian television has been offering information which would promote the establishment of an independent Arab list and its participation in the election.

The editors of the main newscast, however, are not actually recommending the establishment of such a list.

East Jerusalem Journalists Arrested in Jordan
TA250815 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew
25 Apr 84 p 2

[Report by Pinhas 'Inbari]

[Text] Two senior journalists from East Jerusalem who wanted to visit Amman were arrested as soon as they crossed the Jordan River bridge and were taken away for interrogation. One of them was kept in a cell for 6 days and beaten, and the other was kept in a detention cell for 1 day. As far as can be seen, this Jordanian move is connected to the position taken by the journalists from East Jerusalem, one that criticizes Jordan. It has been a very long time since Jordan has acted in such a way toward East Jerusalem journalists.

OAU Plans To Set Up Political Security Council
AB231735 Paris AFP in English 1603 GMT
23 Apr 84

[Text] Addis Ababa, April 23 (AFP) — A special committee of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) began a meeting here today to pave the way for the establishment of an OAU Political Security Council, presumably along the lines of the UN Security Council.

OAU interim Secretary-General Peter Onu suggested to the 12-member ad hoc committee that its primary task would be to define the proposed council's terms of reference, the OAU Secretariat said in a press statement.

In-depth studies could then follow on the security council and a defence council to consider the political, legal, military and financial implications involved, he said.

Mr Onu invited the committee to focus on the need for a "security device and a crisis-structure within the organization," as well as an amendment to the OAU Charter that proposals entail.

"Our political unity can only benefit from a structure capable of guaranteeing peace and security of the OAU countries as a whole by adopting prompt, effective and (decisive) measures to settle any conflict, deter attacks of any type," he said.

He added that this would cut forever the "umbilical cord" that some African states still entrust to "protectors, once upon a time our colonizers."

In answer to critics that the OAU Security Council might be too ambitious a scheme for the OAU at present, Mr Onu said: "We do not have the right to be so pessimistic."

If that goal were not achieved in the immediate future, at least the way would have been paved for a major instrument for the Africa of tomorrow, he added.

The ad hoc committee was set up in Nairobi in 1981 an comprises Algeria, Angola, Cameroon, Egypt, Ethiopia, Lesotho, Mali, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Tanzania and Zimbabwe.

PANA Director Speaks About Growth of Agency
AB231730 Dakar PANA in English 1355 GMT
23 Apr 84

[Text] Dar es Salaam, April 23 (IPS/NAN) — The PAN AFRICAN NEWS AGENCY (PANA) is developing its own telecommunication network in order to send its information to all African countries, the PANA director, Mr Ousmane Diallo, has said.

In an interview with the TANZANIA NEWS AGENCY (SHIHATA) today in Dar es Salaam, Mr Diallo said that the Dakar-based agency would transmit information from African national news agencies to other countries on the continent, as well as developing countries and the industrialised north.

"This will facilitate the balance of flow of information, which is dominated by the rich north," he said. PANA formally launched its operations on May 25 last year, the 20th anniversary of the OAU.

Mr Diallo said that the decolonisation of the African telecommunication network (?was still) hampering PANA's activities.

"After 20 years of independence, we are still trying to see how we can communicate directly between ourselves to facilitate horizontal communication relations first before vertical relations with the north," the PANA director said.

He said that when PANA began operation, it received news from only five African news agencies and disseminated about 6,000 words per day, while at present it is disseminating news from an average of 15 African national news agencies with about 18,000 words a day.

ETHIOPIA

Ugandan Prime Minister Stops Over en Route Home

EA242202 Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1530 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] Mr Otema Alimadi, the prime minister of Uganda, made a stopover in Addis Ababa today on his way home after a week's official visit to the DPRK. Mr Alimadi and the high-ranking officials accompanying him were welcomed and later seen off at Bole International Airport by Comrade Fikre-Selassie Wogderess, secretary general of the Provisional Military Administrative Council, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, and COPWE Executive Committee member.

TANZANIA

Reportage on Nyerere Announcement of New Cabinet

Appointments Announced

EA241745 Dar es Salaam External Service in English 1600 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] Dar es Salaam: President Nyerere has announced a major cabinet reshuffle appointing the Zanzibar president, Ndugu Ali Hassan Mwinyi, the new vice president of the United Republic of Tanzania, and Ndugu Salim Ahmad Salim the new prime minister.

According to the reshuffle, the number of cabinet ministries has been reduced from 21 to 14. The full cabinet is as follows: President: Mwalimu Julius Kambarage Nyerere; Vice President: Ndugu Ali Hassan Mwinyi; Prime Minister: Ndugu Salim Ahmad Salim; Ministers of State in the President's Office: Ndugu Amir Jamal, Ndugu Samuel Sitta, Ndugu Mustafa Nyanganyi; Minister of State in the Vice President's Office: Ndugu Ramadhani Abdallah Shaabani; Ministers of State in the Prime Minister's Office: Ndugu Getrude Mwongola, Ndugu Anna Makinda, Ndugu Kingunge Mgombale Mwiru;

Others are:

Agriculture and Livestock Development: Ndugu John Machunda;
Finance: Ndugu Cleopa Msuya;
Economic Affairs and Planning: Ndugu Kighoma Malima;
Foreign Affairs: Ndugu Benjamin Mkapa;
Home Affairs: Ndugu Salimin Amour;
Defense and National Service: Ndugu Muhiddin Kimario;
Labor and Manpower Development: Ndugu Daudi Mwakawago.

Others are:

Industries and Trade: Ndugu Basil Mramba;
Lands, Natural Resources and Tourism: Ndugu Paul Bomani;
Water, Energy and Minerals: Ndugu Al-Noor Kassum;
Communications, Transport and Works: Ndugu John Malecela;
Education: Ndugu Jackson Makweta;
Health: Ndugu Aaron Kiduo;
Justice: Ndugu Joseph Warioba;
Minister Without Portfolio: Ndugu Rashidi Kawawa

The president has also appointed ministers of state in several ministries as follows:

Agriculture and Livestock Development: Ndugu Herman Kirigini;
Communications, Transport, and Workers: Ndugu Guntram Itatiro;
Water, Energy and Minerals: Ndugu Pius Pius Ngwandu.

The deputy ministers are as follows:

Home Affairs: Ndugu Hamadi Rashid Mohammed;
Industries and Trade: Ndugu Evarist Mwanansao;
Finance: Ndugu Steven Kibona and Ndugu Arcado Ntagazwa;
Defense and National Service: Ndugu (Esley Mwakiambiki).

The president has also announced new principal secretaries and deputy principal secretaries in several ministries.

The new cabinet would be sworn in tomorrow morning.

Further Appointments Named

EA242032 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1700 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Excerpts] Dar es Salaam: President Nyerere today announced a major cabinet reshuffle and appointed Ndugu Ali Hassan Mwinyi vice-president of the United Republic, and Ndugu Salim Ahmad Salim the new prime minister.

Mwalimu said that the new cabinet will have 14 ministries instead of the current 21. He explained that the purpose of reducing the number of ministries of the union Government is to reduce expenditures and increase the efficiency of work inside the government itself and parastatal organisations.

The minister of labor and manpower development is Ndugu Daudi Mwakawago, who before the reshuffle was the minister of information and culture. The functions of the Ministry of Information have now been transferred to the prime minister's office.

President Nyerere has also appointed new principal secretaries:

Mwalimu has appointed Ndugu Timothy Apiyo principal secretary in the President's Office and Ndugu Shellukindo deputy principal secretary in the President's Office.

Ndugu Pius Msekwa has been appointed principal secretary in the Prime Minister's Office and he will be assisted by two deputy principal secretaries who are: Ndugu (Kemja) and Ndugu Wilfred Mwabulambo. The principal secretary in the Ministry of Finance is Ndugu Gilman Rutihinda, who will be assisted by two deputy principal secretaries — Ndugu Abdi Mshangama and Ndugu (Makenya). The principal secretary in the Vice President's Office is Ndugu Machume. Ndugu Kitomari has

been appointed principal secretary of the Ministry of Economy and Planning and he will be assisted by a deputy principal secretary, Ndugu Abbas.

The principal secretary of foreign affairs is Ndugu Paul Rupia, and of home affairs Ndugu (Malamia).

The principal secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development, is Ndugu Simon Mbilinyi and he will be assisted by a deputy principal secretary, Ndugu (Mpupua).

The principal secretary of the Ministry of Labor and Manpower Development is Ndugu Bernard Mulokozi, and the principal secretary of the Ministry of Industries and Trade is Ndugu Mujuni.

Ndugu Hosea Talawa has been appointed principal secretary of the Ministry of Lands, Natural Resources, and Tourism, and Ndugu Fulgence Kazaura is to be principal secretary of the Ministry of Water, Energy, and Minerals.

Other principal secretaries are Ndugu Odira Ongara — Ministry of Communications, Transport and Works; Ndugu Linjewile — Ministry of Education; Ndugu Julius Sepeku — Ministry of health; Ndugu (Damiani) Meela — Ministry of Justice; and Ndugu Galinoma — Ministry of Defense and National Service.

A statement issued by State House said that President Nyerere has written a letter to the ministers and deputy ministers who have been omitted from the list of the new cabinet, thanking them on behalf of the party, government, and their countrymen for the good work they did for the nation.

The statement said the new cabinet will be sworn in at State House, Dar es Salaam at 1100 tomorrow morning.

Nyerere Explains Changes

EA242002 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1710 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Address given to newsmen by President Julius Nyerere when announcing formation of new cabinet 24 April — recorded]

[Excerpts] Ministers have been reshuffled, principal secretaries have been reshuffled, and changes have also been made in other areas. I feel I should now mention the areas affected by these changes, but before that, let me say there are 15 ministries, if you include the prime minister. However, not (?only these ministers) will be participating in the cabinet. Even before, those who were attending cabinet meetings were not only those with ministries. There were other ministers attending cabinet meetings: ministers without portfolio and ministers of state.

Under the present procedure, there will be three ministers of state in the Office of the President. In the vice president's office, there will be one minister of state. [words indistinct] There will be three ministers of state in the Prime Minister's Office. Therefore, on top of the ministers allocated ministries, there will be the ministers of state in the President's Office, the Vice President's Office and the Office of the Prime Minister. All of them will be members of the cabinet.

But there are various ministries that will have ministers of state. These will not be members of the cabinet. Certain ministries have been merged. For example, previously agriculture was together with livestock; then we separated them. Now agriculture will be merged with livestock.

However, livestock remains important. Because of the importance of livestock, we have a minister of state for livestock. He is a minister of state — he will not be a member of the cabinet, but he is a minister of state.

Let met say here that I have two reasons for instituting these changes. The first is to have a small cabinet. But I want efficiency, to increase efficiency. And increasing efficiency means coming up with a system which could — in fact we have moulded a cabinet structure that is slightly new: It is not yet operational, but it will be operational soon. There are several committees. Second: to reduce government expenditures, inside government itself and inside corporations. These reductions alone — reducing ministries alone — do not reduce expenditures, because you reduce the number of ministers and ministries, but expenses still remain the same. Therefore there is need for supervision to ensure that this reduction means a reduction in expenses. And I will want one minister to help me in this, to ensure an efficient cabinet and also to ensure that the expenses are actually reduced [words indistinct]. Minister Jamal, I want you to help me (?in this matter) and make sure this is done.

Cabinet Sworn In

EA251129 Dar es Salaam External Service in English 1000 GMT 25 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Dar es Salaam: President Nyerere today swore in the new cabinet ministers following a major reshuffle he announced yesterday. At a ceremony held this morning at the State House, President Nyerere swore in Ndugu Ali Hassan Mwinyi, the vice president of the United Republic of Tanzania. Ndugu Salim Ahmed Salim was sworn in as the new prime minister of the United Republic of Tanzania.

CAMEROON

Ongoing Investigations Delaying Coup Trial

AB241735 Dakar PANA in French 1149 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] Yaounde, 24 Apr (CAMNEWS/PANA) — The date for the commencement of the trial of the authors of the 6 April abortive coup d'etat is not yet known, it was learned on Tuesday from official sources in Yaounde. Contrary to the announcement made by a certain foreign press service casting about for sensation, the fact that no date has been fixed yet is explained by the magnitude of the affair and the large number of persons involved whose responsibilities must be well established to avoid any confusion or rush. For the moment, several groups can be distinguished from the arrested persons. The first consists of persons detained because their involvements are clearly established. The second group consists of persons detained for the purpose of investigations, and the last group consists of persons who have already stated their case.

Although one is not yet certain about the exact number of persons involved in the coup, some deductions can be made. Most of the officers who led the movement of insurrection participated in that famous officers meeting called during the night of 18 June 1983 by Dr Maikano Abdoulaye, former minister of state in charge of the Armed Forces. It is, in fact, recalled that during the trial [of former President Ahidjo] in February, this officers meeting was mentioned. It must be recalled that after this trial, President Biya commuted the death sentences handed down by the military tribunal on Mr Ahmadou Ahidjo, Major Ibrahim, and Captain Salifou to life imprisonment and stopped all the investigations and court actions requested by the tribunal against the other personalities, namely, Maikano Abdoulaye and Bello Bouba Maigari. It is therefore at the end of the ongoing investigations, which are expected to determine the degree of involvement of each one of those arrested in connection with this abortive coup, that a date for the commencement of the trial will be fixed.

CHAD

Prospects for Negotiation Seem 'Totally Blocked'

AB231658 Paris AFP in English 1453 GMT 23 Apr 84

[By Jean-Eudes Barbier]

[Text] Ndjamena, April 23 [AFP] — Prospects of any negotiation between the regime of Chad's President Hissein Habre and the body led by his predecessor Goukouni Oueddei seem totally blocked, in the view of informed observers here. At the same time, partisans of Mr Goukouni's Transitional Government of National Unity (GUNT) have been going over to the Habre government. "We have no interlocutor to talk to and to try to reach a political solution to the problem," a highly-placed government official who asked not to be named told AGENCE-FRANCE PRESSE. "The main GUNT leaders are wholly manipulated by Libya and have no room to manoeuvre and discuss with the Ndjamena government," he added. The official said that Libya's situation had never been so comfortable as it was now. Northern Chad has been annexed by Tripoli, while the 3,000 French troops in Chad in no way intended to attack the Libyan positions, he said.

A Habre government delegation led by Planning and Reconstruction Minister Joseph Yodoyman has been in Brazzaville for a week to try to win over opponents to Mr Habre, essentially from southern Chad, now in the Congolese capital. But an informed source here said the aim of that mission had never been to open "global negotiations" on the Chadian crisis. The same source confirmed that there had been increasing desertions to Mr Habre's side among GUNT partisans, although this has been denied by GUNT.

Several dozen GUNT combatants are reported to have recently left the Libyan-controlled palm grove of Fada and reached the government lines some 200 kms (130 miles) to the south. The GUNT has denied these reports. Other desertions are said to have taken place in the Guera and Salamat Provinces in the east. Authoritative sources in Ndjamena speak of several hundred men being involved. Furthermore, half a dozen vehicles manned by GUNT partisans presented themselves to the Habre government authorities at Mao, 250 kms (150 miles) northwest of the capital, 3 weeks ago, according to concordant sources.

At the same time civilians regularly seek to escape from the Libyan hold over the north. Seven people recently managed to reach government Army bases after several days' march in the desert, reliable sources say. According to the accounts of the seven, their group numbered 23 when they set out, but most of them died of thirst or fatigue.

For its part, the Chadian radio every week broadcasts details based on personal accounts of the situation in the Libyan-occupied territories.

According to the radio, a monument at the palm grove of Faya-Largeau to fallen Chadian and French soldiers has been destroyed by Libyan soldiers. Chadian flags were burned and replaced by Libyan banners in the main northern towns. Traditional village and district chiefs have been replaced by people's committees appointed by the Libyans, according to these reports. These have also said that the French language has been banned in northern Chad "under threat of imprisonment and beating," while Chadians found bearing arms in the towns and cities "runs the risk of severe punishment."

The women of the region, it is said, must undergo military training in Libya, while livestock is confiscated to feed the Libyan Army. Also, according to reports from the north, the population there is obliged to obtain identity papers issued by Tripoli, and all travel by Chadian soldiers and civilians in the north is controlled by the Libyans.

In southern Chad, meanwhile, although thousands of opposition fighters have rallied to the Habre government in the past few months, pockets of tension persist in certain parts. This is notably so in the western Logone region, where sales centers for cotton, the region's principal resource, were, according to a reliable source here, recently attacked by "wild elements."

ZAIRE

State Commissioner Receives Outgoing Swiss Envoy

AB241736 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French
1130 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] Citizen Kengo Wa Dondo, first state commissioner, received the farewell of the Swiss ambassador to Zaire, who is leaving the country.

GAMBIA

24 People Sentenced to Death for Treason

AB241506 Dakar PANA in English 1446 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] Banjul, 24 April (GINS/PANA) — Twenty-four people were sentenced to death in Banjul at the special division of the Supreme Court. Yesterday's sentence in the treason trial of Kebba Tunkwa and 29 others is the last trial of rebels in the treason case that had lasted 3 years. [Words indistinct] sentenced were members of the now-disbanded [words indistinct].

GHANA

Rawlings Meets SWAPO Leader Sam Nujoma

AB242015 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] A 4-man delegation of the Central Committee of the SWAPO led by its leader, Mr Sam Nujoma, is in the country for a day's meeting with the chairman of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council], Flight Lieutenant Jerry John Rawlings, and other government officials on the liberation struggle in Namibia. The delegation was met on arrival by Mr Ebo Tawiah, a member of the PNDC, and Dr Obed Assamoah, secretary for foreign affairs.

Mr Nujoma told newsmen that the delegation is to visit a number of West African countries to explain the effect of the Angola-South Africa troop disengagement accord signed last February and the progress of the struggle in Namibia. He said he is in Ghana to draw inspiration from the government and people of Ghana. He described Ghana as the first revolutionary country in Africa.

The SWAPO leader pointed out that the operations of SWAPO forces would not be affected by the disengagement agreement signed with American support, because SWAPO forces operate in Namibia and not from Angola. He therefore rejected South African claims that SWAPO had been violating the agreement. He said SWAPO has not been a party to the agreement and stressed that the armed struggle will continue. Mr Nujoma suggested to South Africa a cease-fire agreement between SWAPO and the racist troops to pave the way for a negotiated settlement leading to free and fair elections under UN supervision based on UN Resolution 435. The SWAPO president said South Africa's continued occupation of Namibia and incursions into the neighboring sovereign states had been possible because of the active support it enjoyed from the Reagan administration. He said SWAPO has, since the beginning of the armed struggle in 1966, achieved two main objectives. It has won the confidence of the people of Namibia who have now realized that they would have to be self-liberated just like Angola, Zimbabwe, and other independent African states. The SWAPO leader thanked the government and the people of Ghana for the continued moral, material, and diplomatic support for his organization and hoped Ghana would further increase her assistance to the organization.

IVORY COAST

Al-Qadhdhafi's Manipulations in Chad Viewed

AB242031 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 24 Apr 84 p 26

[F.L. Doubass Commentary: "More Proofs..."]

[Text] "Chad is an extension of our country and we are an extension of Chad. France has no right to intervene along our borders in an African country which concerns us as Africans and Libyans," Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said on Saturday. "France should understand this and stop intervening in Chad. This would make it possible to establish constructive relations between the two countries," he added. These very clear statements fully prove that Libya wishes purely and simply to annex Chadian territory. The constructive relations that Tripoli wants to establish with Paris is nothing but a mere trick to enable it to take hold of the immense wealth under the Chadian soil.

Nationalists, who were fascinated by Col al-Qadhdhafi's wealth and by his false promises, have now realized that their protector is nothing but a new colonizer. They no longer hesitate to join President Hissein Habre's government in great numbers having realized which is the side that has been carrying out the struggle to safeguard the Chadian nation. For some time now, dozens of Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] fighters have been leaving the Fada oasis to join the government forces situated about 200 km to the south.

The flight of civilians from the country's northern regions (under the control of GUNT and Libya) to the ANT (Chadian National Army) bases dramatically demonstrates the situation they found under Al-Qadhdhafi's men. Through their statements,one can see the extent to which the GUNT leaders are being manipulated by Libya and how they have no possibility of maneuvering to safeguard the future of their country.

In the towns of the north the Chadian flag has been replaced by the Libyan one and the French language by Arabic. The people must carry identity cards issued by the Libyan authorities, and so on and so forth. Now that Al-Qadhdhafi has removed his mask, those Africans who were supporting the GUNT, which has become Libya's tool in Chad, must speak up and denounce the confiscation of the liberties of the Chadian people. They must also remember the OAU Charter and insist on the maintenance of the borders inherited from the colonial masters. They must make Al-Qadhdhafi understand that Chad cannot be an extension of Libya, and that Chad is not his, evenif it is a neighbor of his country.

MALI

Continuing Drought Hurts Grain Harvests

AB250935 Paris AFP in English 0732 GMT 25 Apr 84

[Text] Bamako, April 25 (AFP) — Continuing drought meant Mali's principal grain harvests were down 330,000 tons on

original expectations, Agriculture Minister Nfagnanama Kone told a meeting of the Agronomic Research Committee here Tuesday. He listed the following yields for the 1983-84 season: millet, maize and sorghum, 774,600 tons, compared with 888,700 tons for 1982-83, and groundnuts in shell 20,000 tons (48,320). [as received] Paddy rice was up, however, at 162,830 tons against 129,700 tons. Seed cotton also improved from 128,000 tons to 140,000 tons.

NIGERIA

Discussions Begin on Economic Ties With Japan

AB241830 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] Nigeria and Japan today began discussions in Lagos on how to further strengthen economic relations between them. The minister of external affairs, Dr Ibrahim Gambari, led Nigeria's delegation to the talks while Mr (Masa Kanamori) represented his country. Dr Gambari explained that the major task for the military administration was the revamping of the nation's economy and said that Japan could help to realize this objective in the areas of trade and investment. He expressed the need for both countries to set up a joint commission on trade for their mutual benefit. The minister also spoke on the need to intensify economic cooperation between the advanced and developing nations and gave the assurance that Nigeria would support the mounting of global negotiations aimed at promoting international cooperation conducive to the development of Third World countries.

Gambari Supports Officers' Appointments as Envoys

AB241900 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] The minister of external affairs, Dr Ibrahim Gambari, has supported the appointment of military officers as ambassadors. Speaking with a Radio Nigeria correspondent today at Dodan Barracks, the minister said that the eight newly appointed ambassadors from the Armed Forces were very experienced for such posts. Dr Gambari stated that the officers had either been defense advisers, governors, or brigade commanders. He condemned speculative reports on the appointments of the ambassadors, since such appointments would have to be ratified by the countries concerned. The minister said that the list of ambassadors will be announced at the appropriate time.

Minister Speaks on Press, Government Relations

AB241751 Lagos NAN in English 1704 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] Lagos April 24 (NAN) — The minister of information, youth, sports, and culture, Group Capt Sampson Omeruah, said in Lagos today that the present administration was determined to build a more dynamic relationship between the government and the press and to uphold the tenets of press freedom. In a keynote address at the opening of a 1-day seminar on "War Against Indiscipline (WAI) and the Print Media," Group Capt Omeruah said that the government believed that "press freedom must be matched with responsibility, objectivity, and fairness." He said that the press had a role to play in instilling "virtuous qualities" in the minds of Nigerians by emphasising the message of WAI. If there had been discipline since 1960, the minister said, Nigeria would not have found herself in the "untenable position" in which she is, adding that all over the world, the press played a major role in shaping the destiny of governments. "They can either help destroy every noble ideal for which the government stands, or help build its reputation to inestimable heights," he said. In his address, the chairman of the seminar, Alhaji Alade Odunewu, said that in contacting the media, the government was assuming that the press was itself professionally disciplined. He noted that the print media were a potent organ to achieve the objectives of WAI. Papers are expected to be presented at the seminar on such topics as: "The Press as (?a) Disciplined Body in the WAI;" "The Extent [words indistinct];" "Women's Role;" and "WAI and the Media: Exposition and Exhortation." About 200 media executives are attending the seminar organised by the Ministry of Information, Youth, Sports, and Culture.

Private Aircraft Operations To Stop for 2 Weeks

AB242008 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] The Federal Military Government has warned private aircraft of all types to stop operating within the country in the next 2 weeks. An official statement explained that the directive covers the period for the currency exchange exercise. It reminds the public that the ban on the use of private jets is still in force. The government has therefore directed all flying clubs to suspend their training sessions for 2 weeks with effect from tomorrow. Meanwhile, the ministry of transport and aviation has been directed to enforce this suspension, while any person caught trying to violate these instructions would have his licence revoked.

Ibadan Special Tribunal Begins Trial Preparations

AB241335 Lagos NAN in English 1330 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] Lagos, April 24 (NAN) — Members of the Special Military Tribunal, Ibadan zone, will meet tomorrow in Lagos to assess arrangements made toward the take-off of the trials in the zone, the chairman of the tribunal, Brig Bebeye Ndiomu, said in Lagos yesterday. He told the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) that the meeting, the second since they were sworn-in, would look into reports on security arrangements, venue, facilities for their work,and the commencement of their sitting. Brig Ndiomu said that members would also discuss the decree which set up the tribunal and look into "new amendments" as well as assign duties to themselves. The chairman said that members of the zone had been working out the logistics for its operation and would, during their meeting, find out whether reports of an investigation panel on the detainees had been completed. He said that the trials would commence as soon as the prosecution was ready with its charges and evidence. Members of the Lagos zone of the tribunal will also meet tomorrow in Lagos to deliberate on the trial proceedings.

ANGOLA

Entry of UNITA Representative Into UK Protested

MB241443 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] The entry of a representative of the UNITA criminal group into Great Britain, duly authorized by British authorities, was yesterday strongly protested and denounced by ANGOP in a commentary entitled: "The Game of Ambiguities." ANGOP calls the attitude of British authorities a flagrant disrespect for all regulations which should guide relations among states. Recently, on the occasion of the release of British mercenaries who contributed [words indistinct] Great Britain, a British Foreign Office spokesman announced to his country's press that his government had no links with the UNITA criminal group. The entry of a representative of an Angolan puppet organization to London in itself refutes that there is any truth in the British Foreign Office spokesman's statement.

Huambo Residents Urge Execution of UNITA Rebels

MB241340 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Summary] "The residents of Huambo, in the name of the Angolan people, today demanded death by firing squad for 51 UNITA criminals who were engaged in carrying out crimes (?against the people) and against state security. During a mass rally held this morning in that town, Huambo residents said (?that revolutionary justice should be applied to all those who endanger our revolution)." The rally,which was presided over by Deputy Provincial Commissioner Lucio do Amaral, "is an authentic manifestation of the condemnation of the criminal acts UNITA has perpetrated by planting bombs and other explosive devices, conducting espionage and gathering intelligence, staging ambushes, mobilizing and recruiting youths and children to the puppet hordes, and conducting reconnaissance and liaison operations with the (?puppet groups)."

The criminals and some of the victims — children and women without hands and those maimed either by the criminals' devices or landmines planted on footpaths leading to workplaces — were paraded during the rally. Lucio do Amaral, addressing the rally, reviewed UNITA's role in the service of the Portuguese colonial authorities under the Portuguese secret services, PIDE-DGS, and now under the South African racist army. "During the mass rally, death by firing squad was demanded for anyone who carried out attacks against the Angolan revolution, such as the crime which was carried out on 19 April in Huambo which claimed the lives of 24 people, including Angolans and foreigners."

UNITA Official Says Oil Facilities To Be Attacked

MB241540 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] A senior UNITA official, Mr (Tito Chiguji), has said in Paris that the movement will begin attacking petroleum installations in Angola. Interviewed by Radio France Internationale, Mr (Chiguji) said companies such as Gulf Oil in Cabinda were operating there because they recognized the Angolan MPLA-Labor Government and, as such,were interfering in Angola's internal affairs.

Defense Minister on Official Visit to SFRY

For TANJUG reportage on Defense Minister Colonel Pedro Maria Tonha Pedale's official visit to the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, including his talks with the admiral of the fleet and federal secretary of national defense, Branko Mamula, and with the vice president ofthe SFRY Presidency, Vidoje Zarkovic, on bilateral cooperation and the international situation, see the Yugoslavia section of the 25 April Eastern Europe *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

LESOTHO

BNP Welcomes BCP's Election Participation

MB241404 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] A spokesman for the BNP [Basotho National Party] today welcomed the statement by the Mokhehle section of the Basotholand Congress Party [BCP] that it would participate fully in the forthcoming general elections. A spokesman for the section, Mr Stephen Motlamelle, is quoted in the latest issue of the *Leselinyana la Lesotho* as saying that they will participate fully in the general election. The BNP spokesman said that the BCP statement was welcomed as it vindicated the government from accusations that certain political parties and political leaders would be barred from participating in the elections. He said that the government had no intention whatsoever of preventing anyone from taking part in the elections, save those who will be prevented due to contraventions of laws that control the election process.

MAURITIUS

State Control of Sugar Industry Proposed

AB231315 Paris AFP in English 1224 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] Port Louis, April 24 (AFP) — The Mauritian Government is to bring before parliament next month a bill to set up a sugar authority to bring state control to the Indian Ocean island's most important source of income. The sugar industry accounts for 65 per cent of export revenue in Mauritius and 35 per cent of the gross national product. The proposed sugar authority is the principal feature of a programme to restructure the industry following the examination by the government of two reports. The government aims to ensure the viability of the sugar industry, which has been going through a serious financial and structural crisis in recent years. Several treatment plants can no longer pay their employees, following refusal of further credit by banks. The reports were produced by a commission of inquiry chaired by a Yugoslav expert, Dragoslav Avramovic, assisted by two

Mauritian assessors. According to press reports the government proposes both short- and medium-term measures, including:

— the revision of a tax on sugar which brings in 450 million rupees (some 37 million dollars) annually. The tax is to be reviewed in time for the 1985 harvest, but pleas from the industry for it to be abolished have been rejected.

— the establishment of the sugar authority, with the right to monitor all activities of the sugar industry, though not to interfere in management.

— plans to assist the industry, notably in the renewal of equipment.

In the long term the government envisages state government, even nationalisation, and a workers' participation scheme, but it is the sugar authority which is the first priority. It will have several committees which will enable the government to take drastic measures to modernise and centralise plants and stimulate productivity. In restructuring the industry, the government wants to protect the employment and working conditions of factory hands, safeguard the interests of growers and intensify their production, [words indistinct] industrial units to boost economic activity in sugar areas.

On centralisation, the commission noted that in other sugar-producing countries the tendency was to build plants with capacities of 100,000 tonnes or more. In Mauritius the average capacity is around 35,000 tonnes. A steering committee of representatives of the government, management, planters, and workers is proposed to discuss a centralisation programme and its implementation.

Special funds will be established under the control of the sugar authority to modernise equipment, repay debts which amount to some 60 million dollars, not including bank overdrafts which are estimated to approach 45 millions, reinvest profits in the industry, stabilise revenue when world prices fall, and supply credit to producers. Agriculture Minister Kishore Deerpalsing said that the publication of a plan was in order to start a national debate. The government was still open to dialogue and suggestions leading to "firm, objective, and coherent recommendations." The industry is against the idea of a sugar authority, but Sugar Producers' Association Chairman Herve Koenig said his members would look at the plan and give its point of view as soon as possible.

Paul Berenger, leader of the left-wing opposition in parliament, welcomed the idea of an authority, but said it did not go far enough. He wanted a national sugar corporation to take over the island's 21 sugar plants, with shares held by their current owners, workers, middle managers, and planters. C. Bhageerutty, leader of one of the main trade unions in the industry, told the weekly *Weekend* that he favored a sugar authority with some control over the industry, but said the government's plans went too far. The government wanted nationalisation, Mr Bhageerutty charged, adding that in some countries, such as Fiji, the sugar industry had declined after being taken over by the state.

MOZAMBIQUE

Assembly Working Agenda Presented, Approved

MB241234 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0712 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Presentation of proposed working agenda for the 12th session of the People's Assembly by Marcelino dos Santos, permanent secretary of the People's Assembly and Sofala provincial leader — live]

[Text] Your Excellency President of the Republic, deputies, invited guests, ladies and gentlemen: On behalf of the Permanent Commission of the People's Assembly, I have the honor of presenting the proposed working agenda for the 12th session of the People's Assembly. However, before reading the proposed agenda, I would like to inform you that there has been a change in the order of the different points of the working agenda. The points of the working agenda are still the same and the correction is only related to the order, where point No 8 should as a matter of fact be point No 4. The proposed working proposal for the 12th session of the People's Assembly:

1. Examination of the draft resolution of ratification of legislative acts of the People's Assembly Permanent Commission.
2. Examination of the draft resolution of ratification of the nonaggression and good neighborliness accord, the Nkomati accord, signed between the People's Republic of Mozambique and the Republic of South Africa.
3. Examination of the draft resolution of ratification of the friendship and cooperation treaty between the People's Republic of Mozambique and the People's Republic of the Congo.
4. Examination of the draft law altering Article 77 of the Constitution connected with the national flag.
5. Assessment of state activities since the holding of the 11th session of the People's Assembly.
6. Examination of the draft law of the central state plan for 1984.
7. Examination of the draft law of the state general budget for 1984.
8. Second general elections.

Deputies, ladies and gentlemen, this is the proposed working agenda of the 12th session of the People's Assembly. Thank you very much.

[Machel] Deputy Marcelino dos Santos has presented the proposed working agenda for this 12th session. Is there any deputy who would like to say something in connection with the proposal which has been presented? [pause] I repeat: Is there any deputy who would like to say something in connection with the proposal which has been presented? [pause] Nobody. This means we are all in favor of it. This being the case, we now go on to the voting for this agenda. Who votes against? Who is abstaining? If you are abstaining you must raise your card. This is also the case if you are voting against. You do not only raise your card when you are in favor. Again, who votes against. [pause] Who is abstaining? [pause] And who votes in favor? [pause] Thank you. Thank you. [applause] This being the case, I declare the working agenda of the 12th Session of the People's Assembly unanimously approved.

Defense Minister Greets DPRK Counterpart

MB241622 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] Major General Alberto Chipande, minister of defense, has expressed his satisfaction with the quantitative and qualitative growth of relations of friendship and cooperation between the armies of Mozambique and the DPRK. According to the defense minister, that growth is achieved through the clear and dedicated manner in which the Korean advisers, instructors, and specialists have dealt with the training and development of the Mozambican Army. In a message to his counterpart, O Chin-u, on the occasion of the 52d anniversary of the People's Army of Korea, Minister Alberto Chipande expresses hope that the ties of friendship between the parties and Armies of the two countries will ever increase. Furthermore, Minister Alberto Chipande states his resolute support for the DPRK's efforts toward peacefully reunifying Korea and condemns the imperialist manuevers tending to frustrate that desire of the Korean people.

ANC Members Leave Maputo for Tanzania

AB241745 Paris AFP in English 1603 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] Maputo, April 24 (AFP) — More than one hundred men, women and children associated with the African National Congress (ANC) opposed to South Africa's apartheid system left here today for a new sanctuary in Tanzania. It was the second group of ANC members to be evacuated from Mozambique in compliance with the Nkomati nonaggression pact signed by Maputo and Pretoria on March 16. The group left on a Mozambican Airlines flight to Dar es Salaam singing "Lead Us Tambo" (ANC president Oliver Tambo) and "The Burden is Heavy." Several exchanged clenched fist salutes with a small group of ANC members who had come to see them off and joined in the singing. Several of those remaining in Mozambique burst into tears, but the scene was much less emotional than the departure of the first group of 25, who left for Zambia ten days ago.

ANC members were on orders not to talk to the press during the evacuation, but well-informed sources said many of the refugees would probably stay in Tanzania, where the ANC has a school. A final group of about 15 ANC members is expected to fly out next week, bringing the total number of ANC evacuees to about 150. Under the Nkomati pact, Mozambique and South Africa agreed to prevent their countries from being used as springboards for guerrilla attacks against each other.

Pretoria had frequently accused the ANC's military wing, Umkhonto We Sizwe (Zulu for "Spear of the Nation"), of sending guerrillas from Mozambique to carry out sabotage in South Africa. Mozambique ordered all but a handful of ANC members off its soil 3 weeks ago. Mozambique has agreed to let about 10 ANC staffers operate a diplomatic office in Maputo and allow several South African refugees working on governmental contracts to stay. The other ANC members were given a choice between living in a camp supervised by the United Nations High Commission for Refugees and leaving the country. None chose refugee status.

Renamo Claims To Have Killed, Captured 600

MB241945 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] The Mozambique antigovernment movement Renamo has claimed to have killed or captured about 600 Mozambican Government troops in fighting across the country last month. It also claims in a statement released in Lisbon to have destroyed 257 lorries and 17 Soviet-built T-54 tanks.

SWAZILAND

Bhekimpi Briefs Envoys on ANC Activities

MB241729 Mbabane Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Excerpts] The prime minister, Prince Bhekimpi, today briefed the country's high commissioners and ambassadors on the recent conduct of the ANC. The prime minister recalled that besides the recent conflict between the ANC and the police force and soldiers, members of the ANC also took part in armed robberies, including the attack on a Matsapha bank. At present, he said, members of the ANC shoot at local security men without provocation. He said the country is concerned about the loss of human life, saying the police are fired at by people who enter the country without permission. The prime minister also noted that some of the ANC members are alleged to be recruting Swazis, but he could not elaborate on whether the recruited Swazis are still in the country or are being trained elsewhere. He said meanwhile the country is awaiting for a reply from the president of the ANC, Mr Oliver Tambo.

The ambassadors included Ambassador Peter Mthetwa, who represents the Kingdom in the United States, Mexico, and Canada; Ambassador Norman Malinga, a representative at the United Nations; and Ambassador Christian Masuku, the country's ambassador to the Republic of Mozambique. The rest were Mr Vusumuzi Mamba, the Kingdom's high commissioner to East Africa and Malawi; and Mr George Mamba, Swaziland's high commissioner to the United Kingdom. All ambassadors and high commissioners returned home at the weekend. Also present were the minister for foreign affairs, Mr R.V. Dlamini, and the minister for labor and public services, Mr Mhlangano Mastsebula.

Further on Briefing

MB241940 Mbabane Television Service in English 1630 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] The prime minister, Prince Bhekimpi, today briefed Swazi envoys about the damage caused by Cyclone Domoina and the present situation in the kingdom. Prince Bhekimpi said that Swaziland was now in a state of confusion because of people coming from outside our borders with arms to fight the nation. He assured the envoys that things would soon be back to normal because the Government of Swaziland had sent a message to the leader of the ANC, Mr Oliver Tambo, to discipline his men. Prince Bhekimpi warned Swazis who joined these forces to stop it.

ANC Court Case Postponed Until 30 April
MB241909 Mbabane Television Service in English
1630 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] Eight members of the ANC appeared briefly in the Mbabane magistrate's court this morning to face charges of illegal possession of arms of war. The eight include three men who are allegedly part of a group of ANC men who escaped from police custody at Simunye. The rest were arrested near Eveni village after a shootout with police about 2 weeks ago. The case was postponed to 30 April.

Amnesty International Praises Queen on Releases
MB241916 Mbabane Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] Her majesty the queen mother and regent has been praised by Amnesty International for releasing nine political detainees. In a message to the queen mother and regent, Amnesty International said it has learned with great satisfaction of Her Majesty the Queen Regent Ntombi's decision announced on 18 April to order the release of the nine detainees.